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# THE TIMES

INTERNATIONAL EDITION

No 64,436

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12 1992

50p



## PUNTERS' PASSION

Four-legged thrills — the British love affair with the sport of kings  
Weekend Times



## WORST DAYS

No beatings, no faggots — so why didn't Malcolm Bradbury enjoy his schooldays?  
Review



## BUT IS IT ART?

Madonna has called her new CD simply "Sex". Should we take it seriously?  
Review



## GATEWAY USA

## WESTWARD HO!

Next week A chance to collect two internal USA flight tickets free of charge

### Shadow ministers attack treaty

## Labour rebels defy Smith on Maastricht

BY SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith's hopes of stamping out the rebellion within the Labour party on his European policy suffered a fresh setback yesterday with attacks on the Maastricht treaty by three senior party figures.

David Blunkett, shadow health secretary, said that the treaty could stoke up racism and fascism by devolving power further from the people of Britain. John Morris, shadow attorney-general, dismissed the treaty as "dead in the water" and Tony Benn said that continued refusal to hold a referendum would be

an act of constitutional impropriety, if not treachery.

Senior Conservatives are privately expressing delight that Labour's divisions over Europe are now coming into the open and can help to deflect the spotlight from the sharp differences within Tory ranks. More speeches are expected in the next few days by ministers pointing to Mr Smith's problems in holding his party's line.

Mr Smith is planning to use Monday's meeting of Labour's National Executive Committee to try to calm the tensions within the party. With the fate of the treaty largely determined by the French referendum on September 20, he is expected to appeal to his senior colleagues not to rush into rebellious statements. He is determined to restrict the agenda to discussion of the policy paper for the party conference and to delay a wider debate until the committee meets on September 23.

Mr Smith came under increasing pressure yesterday to change his opposition to a referendum and to exploit the government's troubles over Europe and the economy. Mr Blunkett told the conference of the National Association of Racial Equality Councils in Sheffield that the recession, unemployment and public service cuts were creating a " tinderbox that must not be allowed to ignite".

He linked some of these difficulties with the treaty because it could lead to a further centralisation of power. "The danger of Maastricht, in its present form, is that it may reinforce genuine worries that influence and control are slipping away from ordinary people."

Mr Morris, speaking in Llanelli last night, said that the French referendum would give a chance to redraft



Palace revolution: the RAF bandwomen who will end a 155-year tradition rehearsing at RAF Uxbridge, west London, yesterday

## Scots pledge by Major

John Major pledged after meeting leading Scottish politicians and industrialists that he would help to preserve the country's culture and traditions within a United Kingdom of equal partners. But he ruled out a referendum on Scottish home rule. Page 2

## Driver cleared

A motorist had his conviction for failing to provide a breath specimen quashed because of a legal loophole which could clear 100,000 drivers convicted over the past 20 years. Page 2

## Pigs pacified

A rave party in the village of Ipsden, near Wallingford, has been banned because it might disturb the local pigs. Page 3

## Saudi jet sale

President Bush is to allow the sale of 72 F15 fighters to Saudi Arabia, despite the disapproval of the Israeli government, which fears that the move could tilt the military balance in the Middle East. Page 10

## ANC accused

The armed wing of the African National Congress was accused of plotting to assassinate Brigadier Joshua Qoqozo, the military dictator of Ciskei, where 28 ANC supporters were killed last Monday. Page 11

## Pit job fears

The Union of Democratic Mineworkers has urged the prime minister to block new coal contracts which, it says, will result in the loss of up to 45,000 jobs and do irreparable damage to the industry. Page 17

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## Lower inflation rate fails to boost pound

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

AN encouraging set of inflation figures and the prime minister's Thursday night pledge to defend the pound solidly within the exchange-rate mechanism (ERM), failed to give the pound more than a temporary lift.

Official retail price figures, showing annual inflation slowing to 3.6 per cent in August, from 3.7 per cent in July, encouraged the stock market, although City economists still fear much of the improvement reflects two

years of recession. Annual inflation in August was at its lowest since March 1988.

Even the stronger dollar, which usually helps ease tension between the ERM currencies, provided scant comfort for sterling, which ended a third week of high drama in the foreign exchange markets dangerously close to its absolute floor in the European parity grid.

Recovery hope, page 6  
Sterling falls, page 17

## Princess Royal denies 'silly girls' story

BY ALAN HAMILTON

BUCKINGHAM Palace, continuing its newly discovered robustness in defending its principals, yesterday issued a strong rebuttal on behalf of the Princess Royal, who is currently touring India and about whose possible remarriage there has been much speculation.

According to last week's *Sunday Express*, the princess was said to have expressed the view during a private family gathering that she intended to delay her rumoured wedding to Commander Timothy Laurence until press interest in the marital problems of the Princess of Wales and the Duchess of York had abated. She was said to have objected to being used as means of diverting attention from the unwelcome publicity her two sisters-in-law have been receiving at the hands of the tabloids.

She was quoted in the *Express* by an

unnamed source as saying: "I won't bail out those two silly girls". And "I won't be a pawn in a Palace public relations exercise". A Palace spokesman, acting on direct instructions from the princess, said yesterday: "Her royal highness wishes it to be known that she did not make the statements attributed to her, or anything like them." The statement was issued after the Palace had approached the *Sunday Express* suggesting a correction, which was refused.

Eve Pollard, the editor of the *Sunday Express*, said yesterday that her newspaper stood by its story. After being told by the Palace that a denial would be issued, the *Express* had checked again with its source, who confirmed the accuracy of the quotes.

"While the *Sunday Express* has no wish for a dispute with Buckingham Palace, we do not believe it would be proper to publish what amounts to a correction," Miss Pollard said. Specula-

tion on the princess's wedding plans surfaced afresh yesterday, with an unsubstantiated suggestion that she would marry Commander Laurence in February, probably in Scotland.

Yesterday's denial is one of several which the usually reticent Palace has issued in recent days, on the undoubted instructions of the Queen, to counter the current feverish degree of interest in younger members of the royal family.

In the past two weeks spokesmen have dismissed as a fake a letter purporting to give details of the Princess of Wales's private life, and have rejected claims that the princess made secret visits to her friend James Gilbey at a Norfolk farmhouse. In addition, Scotland Yard has taken the rare step of denying a report that the princess dismissed her personal police officers in order to keep secret appointments.

Leading article, page 13



Princess Royal: denied newspaper reports

## Patten flies back for talks over airport

BY ROBERT MORGAN AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

CHRIS Patten, the governor of Hong Kong, returns to Britain next week to put his plans for more democratic representation and the transition to Chinese sovereignty to John Major and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary.

He will also discuss the Hong Kong airport project, which has become the focus of a struggle with Peking for political and economic influence. The project is expected to cost about £11 billion but Peking has refused financial backing because it fears that Hong Kong could be saddled with huge debts after the takeover in 1997.

This week the Chinese put forward proposals believed to include the ploughing of profits from sale of land along the airport's rail link into the project to reduce borrowings. The airport committee, made up of Chinese and British diplomats and Hong Kong officials, is expected to meet next week amid talk that it could reach agreement.

Mr Patten is also likely to tell Mr Major and Mr Hurd his views on how far he should go in championing the liberals in Hong Kong and is likely to insist on being allowed to enact measures to promote local democracy.

China has strongly challenged the right of Britain to increase liberal representation in the executive council. Mr Patten has hinted that he will take a much tougher line towards the communist government in Peking than his predecessor, Lord Wilson.

## UN move to expand Bosnia peacekeeping force delayed

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

MOVES by the United Nations Security Council to draft a resolution expanding the peacekeeping force in Bosnia from 1,500 to about 8,000 were under way last night, but UN sources said a resolution approving the new troop deployments was not expected until Monday. A formal meeting of the council was delayed when Ecuador, the current president, failed to convene it despite frantic pleas.

Sir David Hannay, the British ambassador to the UN, made clear that Britain wanted an early resolution. Britain's offer of 1,800 soldiers is likely to be accepted in full because of doubts about sending Italian troops to Bosnia.

The moves at the UN came as a senior Bush administration official was reported as saying that America was consulting its allies over how best to implement a mooted ban on military flights over Bosnia. One purpose of the "no-fly" zone would be to prevent Serbian warplanes from shadowing Western relief flights to Sarajevo, the official said.

The air ban would also be a step towards US military involvement in the conflict in the former Yugoslav republic, the official said, adding that it would "get the attention" of the Serbian militia who have been attacking Bosnian Muslims for the past six months.

"We are looking quite actively and hard at it," the official told a group of State Department correspondents under rules that demand he not be identified.

John Major made clear yesterday that he had no intention

of recalling parliament to discuss the deployment of British troops in Bosnia. He dismissed a written demand from Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, and said he saw no reason to change his earlier decision.

The proposal to increase the UN force in Bosnia was circulated to security council members by Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, on Thursday. It calls for another four or five battalions to be sent, as well as transport back-up and 500 medical personnel.

UN sources said the 1,500 troops that had been offered by the Italians might not be accepted because of the reluctance to deploy soldiers from neighbouring countries in the conflict area. This would mean greater dependence on Britain and an almost certain request for all of the troops that it has offered.

As UN officials admitted frustration over the delay in calling a security council meeting to draft the new resolution, General John Shalikashvili, Nato's supreme allied commander Europe, gave a warning against alliance military involvement in Bosnia. Speaking at a ceremony at the Italian naval base at Sarajevo, he said the worst thing Nato could do would be to act "without a clear political goal around which we can all rally".

But, he said, the alliance could help the UN to monitor heavy weapons on the ground and aircraft in the sky if a request were received. Serb commanders have until noon today to hand over their heavy weapons to UN supervision.

General Shalikashvili also said Nato could help with command and control headquarters or with the restoration of vital infrastructure. He was, however, opposed to military intervention. He said: "Daily... I hear calls for military action, but often only for action's sake and not because these calls offer roadmaps for a solution. We will not advance the cause of peace if we continue to insist on a military solution to the

Continued on page 16, col 3

Owen in Belgrade, page 9

## Women in vanguard

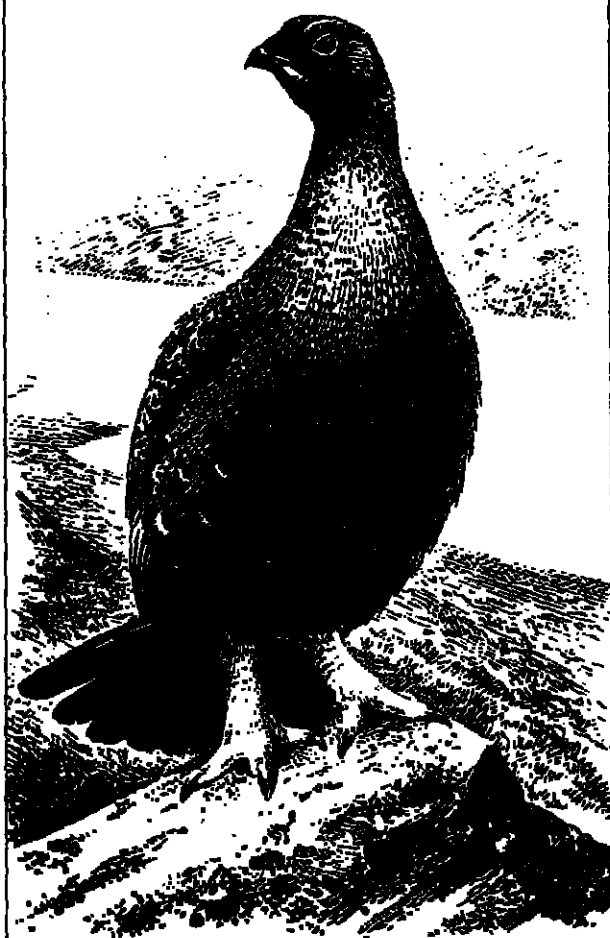
BY KATE ALDERSON

THEY'RE changing the guard at Buckingham Palace... nine women will march out with their male comrades today to end a 155-year tradition.

The women from the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, who will wear trousers, busbies and boots like the men's, will parade in the palace ceremony in the knowledge that another member of their sex approves of the innovation.

"The Queen is absolutely delighted," Wing Commander Barrie Hingley, principal director of the RAF's three bands, said.

## RAISED IN THE HIGHLANDS



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QUALITY IN AN AGE OF CHANGE

Is te h r a t v i c t s t f v f y l a t s i t i v f i f i c : i . :

# THE TIMES

## Patient drug share affection

**Dull days  
prompt  
early onset  
of illness**

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

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flights in  
America

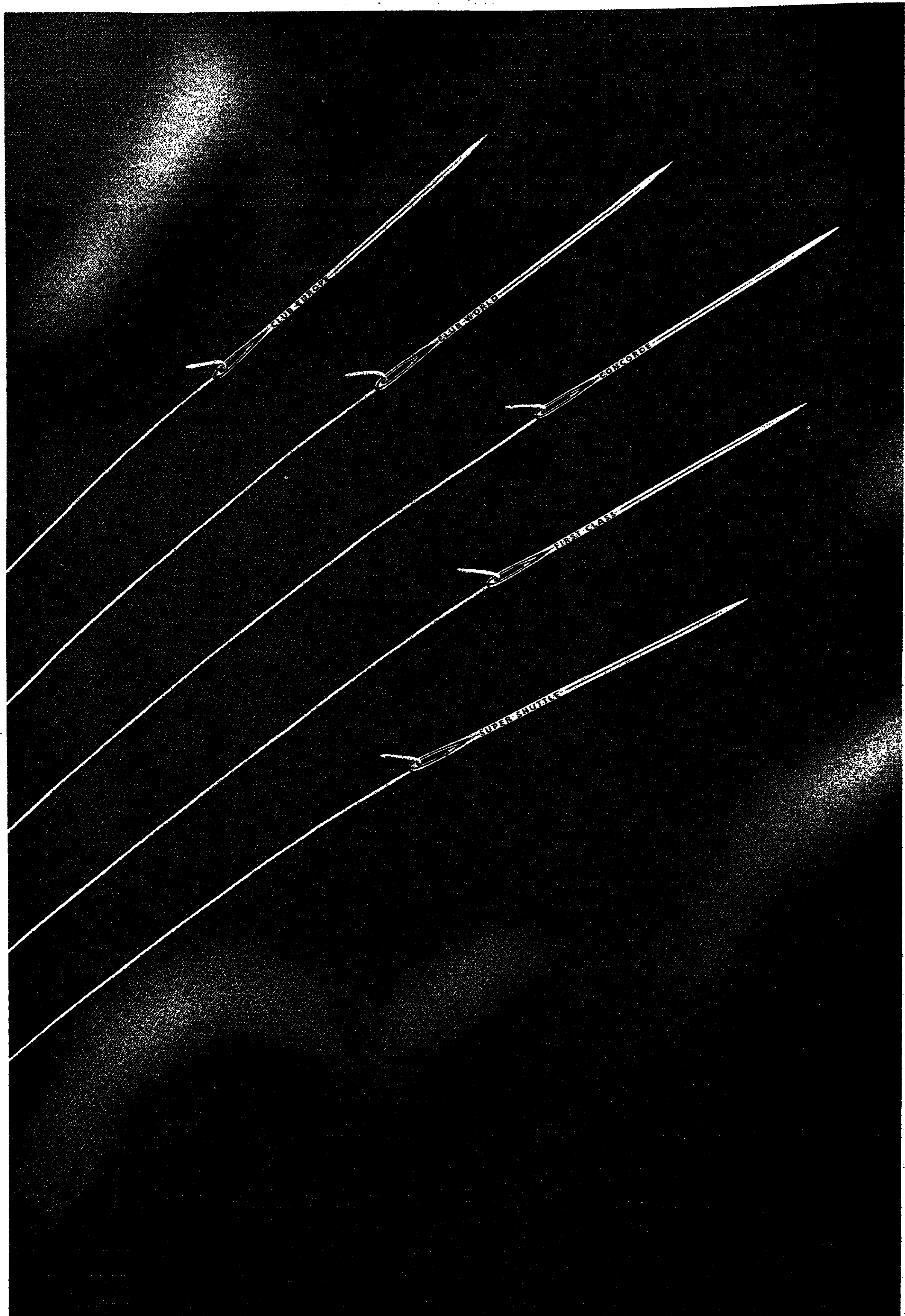
Tomorrow, The Sunday Times joins forces with United Airlines to make an effort to improve the newspaper's standing in its readers' eyes. It's an opportunity of a first flight within the U.S.A.

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## Patient given lethal drug shared bond of affection with doctor

By BILL FROST

A BOND of affection and mutual admiration existed between a hospital consultant and an elderly patient who died after being given a fatal injection, Winchester Crown Court was told yesterday.

Nigel Cox, 47, a rheumatologist at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, denies attempting to murder Lillian Boyes, 70, after she had begged him to cut short her suffering. The jury was told yesterday that large doses of heroin had failed to ease the pain of her rheumatoid arthritis, complicated by internal bleeding, anaemia, gastric ulcers and body sores.

Patrick Boyes, 42, described how Dr Cox had praised his mother's courage shortly before she died. "He said how much he admired her and how fond he was of her. There was a bond between them because he had been treating her for so long."

Mr Boyes said that, on the morning his mother died, in

August last year, she had been in terrible pain. "Dr Cox injected her in the foot. After that she just faded away. I was very upset but in another way relieved. But it was what she wanted. Her suffering was at an end after such a long time."

Nichola Creasey, a staff nurse at the hospital, described how Dr Cox administered an injection of heroin after having difficulty in finding a suitable vein. Some time later, she told Dr Cox that Mrs Boyes, although semi-conscious, was not completely out of pain. Dr Cox subsequently gave a second injection. Asked what effect that had, Mrs Creasey said: "Mrs Boyes blacked out completely and passed away a few minutes later."

At first, Mrs Creasey thought that the second injection had been a tranquilliser. She then consulted the ward drugs book and discovered that Dr Cox had administered potassium chloride.

"Mrs Boyes talked very affectionately about Dr Cox, she was very fond of him and very grateful," she said. "She often used to say how kind Dr Cox had been and how he used to hold her hand. I know he was very fond of her, too."

She told the court that, at the time of the first injection, Mrs Boyes appeared to be fading fast. "She was just hours, maybe even minutes from death."

The Rev Robert Clarke, senior chaplain at the hospital, told the court that, in 21 years of comforting the sick, he had never seen a patient endure such suffering as Mrs Boyes had. "The rheumatoid arthritis had 'eaten into' her. I have seen sick young children, long-term cancer patients and IRA bomb victims. But I have never seen a person so

physically degenerated by illness as Mrs Boyes," he said. "Apart from her mind, every bit of her body was racked in pain."

"On August 11 last year, she announced to staff that she wanted to die and wanted no medication except for painkillers. I respected that decision."

Mr Clarke said that he saw Mrs Boyes on the morning she died. "Her arm was no thicker than my two fingers. When a nurse touched her joints, you could hear her bones move. It is a sound that will stay with me to the grave."

Mrs Boyes had spoken of Dr Cox many times in glowing terms, Mr Clarke said. "Like many patients, she praised him for being good, kind and effective."

Mr Boyes said that, on the morning of her death, his mother had had difficulty breathing. "Her chest was congested. She could not cough, it was too painful. A nurse tried to lift her, but Mother screamed in agony. She couldn't bear anyone to touch her."

Sydney Kenridge, QC, for the defence, asked: "Did you at any time ever make any complaint against Dr Cox?" Mr Boyes replied: "No, never."

Rosin Hart, a ward sister, said in a sworn statement that, having examined the drugs book after Mrs Boyes died, she realised that a "lethal dose" of potassium chloride had been administered. "I was shocked by this. I did not know what to do and decided to give myself the weekend to think it over," she said.

She resolved to report the matter to the hospital's nursing manager. "I had to instigate enquiries and sort things out," she said. The trial continues on Monday.

## Dull days prompt early onset of illness

By ALISON ROBERTS

THE gloomiest August and early September weather for several years has been more than just a disappointment for the estimated 10,000 sufferers of seasonal affective disorder (SAD) whose symptoms have appeared early this year.

Victims of the condition, starved of summer sunshine, are already suffering flu-like aches and pains, stodgey-food cravings, lethargy and depression. The SAD Association reported an increase in enquiries and the premature onset of symptoms in its regular members whose illness normally begins in mid-October.

The disorder is linked directly to the amount of light travelling through the optic nerve. With an average of only 168 hours of sunshine this August against 216 hours in both 1991 and 1990 and 242 hours in 1989, the amount of natural light available has become insufficient for SAD sufferers far earlier in the year. Jennifer Eastwood, founder of the SAD Association, said some members were being forced into virtual hibernation by extreme tiredness. "People are affected by memory loss, lack of co-ordination, some spend all day in bed, overeat and feel ill. The worst cases have to be hospitalised."

SAD is thought to be caused in some people when insufficient light inhibits the production of substances called neurotransmitters, which transmit the action of a nerve to a cell. The lack of a particular neurotransmitter called serotonin may affect the body's functioning and produce the SAD symptoms.

## London stays at top of business travel league

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

LONDON is still the international business traveller's favourite city. Despite the recession and an exchange rate of almost two dollars to the pound, men and women from around the world would sooner come to London than any other city — and travel on a British airline to get there.

According to a survey among 3,636 international business men and women carried out by *Business Traveller* magazine, British Airways emerged as their favourite airline and London as their favourite business city. Those polled were some of the most influential decision makers in the world, including almost 1,500 company chairmen.

British Airways was voted the best airline by 24 per cent of respondents, with Singapore Airlines second favourite on 20 per cent. Virgin Atlantic was voted best in business class on long haul flights.

In spite of claims by travel

agents that they can provide the best business deals, the survey revealed that 91 per cent of business men and women choose the airline they fly with themselves.

The results of the survey came as welcome succour to the London Tourist Board, which has been trying to maintain London's image as the "world capital" and to convince the government that inbound tourists and businessmen and women should be considered a vital part of the economy.

According to the Board, tourism as a whole earned an estimated £4,400 million for the capital in 1991, and represented almost five per cent of London's gross domestic product. Some 200,000 Londoners — seven per cent of the working population — are employed in tourism, and an anticipated 50,000 additional jobs will have been created by the end of the century.



Making pigs of themselves: two residents of the breeding centre celebrate the court's decision in traditional fashion, rooting for a quiet life

## Village rave party banned to save pigs' skins

By JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

A RAVE party has been banned from a village because it might disturb the pigs.

After hearing eight hours of evidence from pig welfare experts, sound technicians and local people, magistrates at Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, have decided to respect the wishes of Boaring the Boar, Dot the spotty sow and the 460 other pigs at the RSPCA-backed pig-breeding centre in Ipsden, near Wallingford.

They upheld a decision by South Oxfordshire District Council not to grant a licence for the rave, planned for October 3, to Paul Bernstein, and his Leicester-based firm Nemesis Productions. Nemesis expected 10,000 people to attend the party at Chiltern Park airstrip, 350 yards from the centre, which investigates the welfare of free-range pigs.

The leader of the unit, Dr Jane Guise, said that eight hours of loud music could scare her animals and make them violent. "Groups of

startled pigs can charge through the fencing. When confused they fight, and this can be very dangerous. The boars have a tendency to kill each other."

She said that loud noise could force 45 pregnant sows to miscarry and that 30 other sows could squash their piglets as they jumped nervously up and down.

Jamie Day, from the National Association of Pig Breeders, said: "Pigs are very similar to humans. Very intense noise will disturb pigs who will have just been

sleeping or rooting about. They will run about and get very agitated. It puts a big stress on them and they would take it out on each other." The RSPCA said it was delighted with the decision.

The village's 106 human residents also objected to the rave, because of the increased traffic and noise it would produce. Eric Zuerich, the council's solicitor, said: "It is clear that local feeling is strongly against this rave party. There will be widespread disruption with

young people converging on the village."

Police in Durham were on alert last night to prevent an estimated 1,500 travellers from setting up an illegal free music festival on moorlands in the North Pennines. Landowners have gained an injunction to stop this weekend's Festival of the Silver Moon from taking place on Bollilhope Common, near Stanhope, Durham. Durham county council has obtained an injunction to stop travellers using lay-bys and verges as temporary stopovers.

## Solicitor stole £410,000

A SOLICITOR who stole £410,000 from clients and spent the money on antiques, sending his two sons to public school, a holiday villa in France and a £120,000 flat for one of his sons, was jailed for three and a half years at the Old Bailey yesterday.

John Bridge, 54, earned more than £50,000 a year at Taylor Joynton Garrett, which has offices in Fleet Street and more than 60 partners. He admitted five charges of theft between October 1989 and September 1991. Educated at Lancing and Cambridge, he has been struck off by the Law Society and will never practise as a solicitor again.

The court was told that his home, Siltan House in Siltan, Dorset, had to be sold. His family is now living on social security payments in a four-roomed cottage in the village. Bridge was a member of the local church council.

John Coffey, for the prosecution, said Bridge stole the money from clients' accounts including one belonging to London Hospital Special Trustees. He made ten illegal withdrawals from their account totalling £316,000.

## Beware black cars at 3pm on weekdays

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

FATAL road accidents are most likely to happen to black cars being driven in busy urban streets at 3pm on weekdays, according to statistics disclosed by the transport department yesterday. Green cars are the safest.

A league table of the colour of cars most involved in accidents in which someone was injured shows clearly that

black is worst, with 179 accidents per 10,000 vehicles, compared with an average of 150 for all cars.

Next is white at 160, then red with 157, and blue with 149. One of the safest of colours seems to be green.

Using the simple logic that colour is the key has failed to satisfy the transport department. Alfred Munster, in the

department's statistics directorate, says it is more likely that the colour is related to the type of car being driven. "It is possible that certain colours are more popular among groups of drivers with a higher risk of accident, such as young drivers or company car users," he says in the report.

The statistics also show clearly when and where it is

safest to travel. The highest risk time is between 3pm and 5pm from Monday to Thursday, with the peak of 3,326 deaths occurring at around 3pm during 1991.

Accidents are most likely on busy roads in built-up areas, with 215,624 people killed or injured in 1991 in urban areas, out of the total for all roads of 311,269.

## THE SUNDAY TIMES

### Free flights in America

Tomorrow, The Sunday Times joins forces with United Airlines to make an offer of unprecedented scale to its readers: the opportunity of a free flight within the USA. There is no competition to enter, no tokens to collect — everyone who buys a copy of The Sunday Times will get a free ticket voucher.

## GATEWAY USA

Plus, there is a limited number of free trans-Atlantic return flights and also round-the-world "dream tickets" being given away.

See The Sunday Times Magazine tomorrow

## Focus is in eye of beholder

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

A CAMERA that harnesses developments in ophthalmic medicine will use the photographer's eye to focus on its subject.

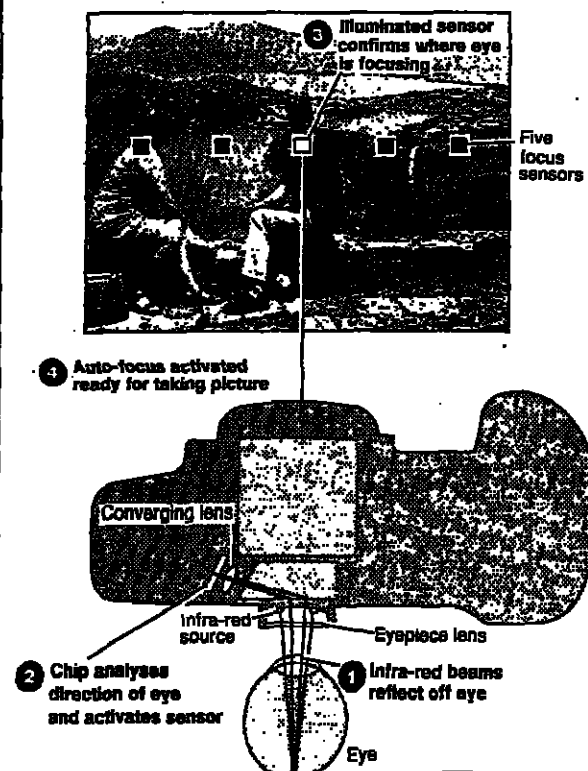
The camera, to be launched by Canon in Britain next month, fires two infra-red beams on to the pupil and cornea which are reflected back inside. An infra-red sensitive microchip determines from the beams' angles where in the field of view the photographer is looking.

One of five sensors, displayed to the viewer as horizontal squares, is matched to the microchip's assessment of where the eye is pointing, and instructions are sent to the lens, which focuses on the centre of the activated sensor.

Traditional automatic cameras generally focus on the object in the centre of the frame or one that dominates a scene. That can often be a subject which the photographer had no intention of taking. The new camera, called the Electro Optical System or EOS 5, should minimise those frustrations, it is claimed.

For example, if the photographer is looking at Uncle Bill scaling Everest in the corner of his vision, the courageous relation can be accurately captured for posterity without the camera automatically focusing on the mountain.

### THE CAMERA CONTROLLED BY THE EYE



Someone keen to take snaps of a dog running can look from left to right without having to compose separate pictures.

Because people's eyeballs are different shapes and sizes, the camera can be simply calibrated to recognise an individual user's eye. The EOS 5 can store details on up

to five different eyes. Masayoshi Hiramatsu, a spokesman for the Japanese company, said the technology was based on cameras used by doctors for eye examinations.

Graham Smith, a Canon UK spokesman, said yesterday that up to 50 sensors might be possible, making the autofocus more accurate.

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# Water meter homes find they can afford bills

By DAVID YOUNG

ALMOST three quarters of 6,000 households which have taken part in a trial to study the social impact of having a metered water supply say that they have experienced no problems and that they think it is reasonable to meter supplies.

The survey was carried out by Ofwat, the independent regulator for the water industry, and the environment department. Ninety-one per cent of households said that they had no difficulty in being able to afford their metered water bills and 76 per cent said that they did not worry about their water bills.

Of the 8 per cent who did report difficulty, most said that this was because of low income

water bills, 31 per cent thought that they paid less than they would have done under the rateable value system, and 19 per cent said that they thought they paid about the same.

Forty-one per cent of households said that metering had not caused them to cut back in their use of water, most because they considered it unnecessary to do so.

Fifty-nine per cent of households had attempted to reduce their use of water, and most reported no difficulty in this. The most frequently reported water saving measures were less watering of plants or gardens and not leaving taps running.

Researchers found that 535 households — 8.3 per cent of the total interviewed — appeared to have experienced difficulty because of metering. Further interviews were held with 351 of these households. The majority of this group worried a lot about their water bills and other aspects of metering, and in some cases this had contributed to family tension and argument.

Only a third of these households thought it reasonable to meter water. However, when their water bills were examined, a third of these households paid less under metering than they would have under the rateable value system.

The survey found that awareness of the cost of using water was low. Only a quarter of households were able to make a reasonably accurate estimate of costs. Households where cost estimates were too high were slightly more likely to reduce their water consumption.

A high proportion of households which had experienced the most financial difficulty had five or more members, and many of this group also appeared to have experienced events which had an adverse impact on their financial circumstances, such as unemployment, in the previous three years.



Ian Byatt: trials have caused few difficulties

or problems with other bills. Ian Byatt, the director general of Ofwat, said: "Overall, the metering trials do not appear to have caused difficulties for many customers, and this is encouraging. A small number of customers, however, have found that metering has caused them some hardship."

"There are important messages in the research which need to be addressed not only by the companies and myself, but by other government departments who will want to consider the findings carefully."

The survey, which was conducted in 12 areas of the country, found that when asked about the size of their



Clinton's man: the economist J. K. Galbraith joined Paul Tsongas, a former presidential candidate, in hosting a Commons dinner party yesterday to support the Democrat contender. Gore campaign, page 10

## Police seek owners of stolen art

By CRAIG SETON

POLICE in Gloucestershire are trying to trace the owners of stolen antiques and works of art, possibly worth up to £2 million, that have been recovered in a series of raids in the London area.

The items include furniture, paintings, silverware, miniatures, clocks and porcelain that have been stolen over several years from country homes in the Cotswolds and elsewhere. The property was seized last month by detectives from Cirencester in raids codenamed Operation Auction. Several people have been charged.

The valuables are being held in a warehouse in Cirencester while officers and art world experts identify and value them, and match them to property reported stolen.

## Fischer averts third defeat

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

IN A fierce eight-hour battle, Bobby Fischer pulled back from an expected defeat to achieve a draw on the 61st move in the sixth game of the match against Boris Spassky in Sveti Stefan, Montenegro, on Thursday night.

Although Spassky had an extra pawn in the final stages, it was useless for winning purposes at this level. Spassky said that he had missed several chances to win and Fischer said: "I was in a difficult position for a very long time."

Spassky now leads by two games to one with three games drawn. The winner is the first player to take ten games and the prize is a record \$5 million (£2.5 million).

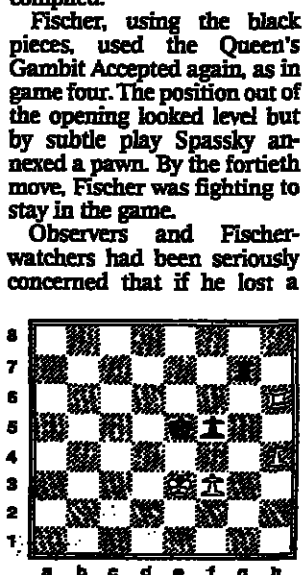
Fischer's nervousness was displayed right at the start of the game. He arrived wearing a dark visor to shield his eyes from non-existent sunlight and ordered Spassky's assis-

tants, Yuri Balashov and Alexander Nikitin, out of the hall banning them from watching the game directly. Spassky complied.

Fischer, using the black pieces, used the Queen's Gambit Accepted again, as in game four. The position out of the opening looked level but by subtle play Spassky annexed a pawn. By the fortieth move, Fischer was fighting to stay in the game.

Observers and Fischer-watchers had been seriously concerned that if he lost a

third consecutive game he might have abandoned the match as he did in 1960 when he walked out of a contest.



The final position

| White   | Black | White   | Black |
|---------|-------|---------|-------|
| 1 d4    | d5    | 33 Bg5  | ES    |
| 2 c4    | cxd4  | 34 Kf3  | Nd2+  |
| 3 Nf3   | Nf6   | 35 Kf2  | Nd3   |
| 4 Bg5   | h6    | 36 Bh6  | Ne1   |
| 5 Bxc4  | ex5   | 37 Kg1  | Nd3   |
| 6 0-0   | ex5   | 38 Bg5  | Rb1+  |
| 7 dxe5  | Qxd1  | 39 Kf2  | Rb2   |
| 8 Rd1   | Bxe5  | 40 Re7+ | Kf8   |
| 9 Bc3   | Nbd7  | 41 Re6  | Kg7   |
| 10 Bb2  | h5    | 42 Kf3  | Nd2   |
| 11 Bb2  | Ke7   | 43 Re6  | Ne1   |
| 12 Nbd2 | Ke7   | 44 Bf6+ | Kg8   |
| 13 e4   | Ke8   | 45 Bxf6 | Rac3  |
| 14 f4   | Rf8   | 46 Bf4  | Rd2   |
| 15 Re1  | Rd8   | 47 Rg6+ | Kf7   |
| 16 Ne5  | Bd6   | 48 Rg5  | Kf8   |
| 17 Nxf7 | Nxf7  | 49 Bc7  | Rd2   |
| 18 Rxe6 | Rxe6  | 50 Bb6  | Nd3   |
| 19 Bxe6 | h6    | 51 Kf2  | Ne1   |
| 20 Bx4  | Bx4   | 52 Kf3  | Nd3   |
| 21 Rf3  | Ke5   | 53 Bc7  | Rd2   |
| 22 Rb3  | Ke4   | 54 Bb6  | Rd2   |
| 23 Bc3  | Ne4   | 55 Kg3  | Ne1   |
| 24 Re7+ | Nd2   | 56 Rf5  | Ne2+  |
| 25 Bxb7 | Nd2   | 57 Kf4  | Ne5   |
| 26 Rb7  | Rb3   | 58 Re6  | Ne5   |
| 27 Re1  | h5    | 59 Re6  | Ne5   |
| 28 Bf4  | Ke5   | 60 Re6  | Ne5   |
| 29 Kf2  | Ke4   | 61 Bb5  | Ked5  |
| 30 Kf3  | Nd2+  |         |       |
| 31 Kf3  | Nd2+  |         |       |
| 32 Kg3  | Nd3   |         |       |

## Tories ask estate agents to run housing

By DOUGLAS BROOM  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
CORRESPONDENT

THE Conservative flagship borough of Wandsworth in southwest London is to preempt government moves to force councils to privatise the management of council housing. It will invite estate agents to take over the running of council estates.

Ministers expects housing associations to take on most of the work when legislation soon to be drafted forces housing departments to compete with private firms for the job of managing their housing stock. Wandsworth believes estate agents can do the job better and has already held talks with the national firm Chestertons.

Mark Simmonds, 28, chairman of Wandsworth's housing committee, said housing associations, which now build most new homes for rent in Britain, had become too big and inflexible. Starting out as small voluntary groups building homes for local people, they had become large landlords since the government halted council building.

Far from bidding to take over council estates, they should themselves be forced to open their housing management operations to private competition in the same way as councils, he said. "They started out with small groups of houses but now they are becoming municipalised, building huge estates. We can see no reason why they should not be subject to same discipline as the rest of us."

Wandsworth, which was one of the first councils to privatise its refuse collection services, decided not to wait for the new legislation because it wanted to develop its own style. Three pilot projects, involving an entire estate and two tower blocks, are due to begin soon, with estate agents acting as managing agents. "The idea is to explore both ends of the market," said a spokesman.

"We will invite the big firms to take on a whole estate, but give the smaller firms a chance by putting single tower blocks out to tender." The results of the pilot projects will be reported to Sir George Young, the housing minister.

## Rape led to death of victim, 61

A man was jailed for seven years yesterday for causing the death of a frail pensioner whom he raped.

Kathleen Lillyman, 61, died of a stroke three days after Raymond Oxborough, 30, broke into her home in Headingley, Leeds, early on March 23, tied her to her bed and gagged and blindfolded her.

Oxborough, also of Headingley, had admitted rape and was found guilty in July of manslaughter, which he denied. Sentence had been adjourned for psychiatric and social reports.

## Vote missed

Up to 250 electors in a council by-election received their polling cards yesterday, a day after the poll was held. Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council apologised, but said that the election result would stand.

## Windmills stay

Tony Marmont, a businessman, of Woodhouse Eaves, Leicestershire, is to be allowed to keep two 80ft windmills that provide electricity for his home, a planning enquiry has ruled. North West Leicestershire Council had claimed that they were an eyesore.

## Verger hit

Len Saxton, a verger at All Saints Church, Ilkley, West Yorkshire, was hit in the face by a man who interrupted a service and tried to set fire to a Roman altar. A man has been cautioned by police.

## Bypass opens

A 14-mile bypass south of Norwich, Norfolk, was opened yesterday. It includes tunnels for badgers and other wildlife.

## Elderly hurt

Eleven pensioners were injured, one seriously, when a social services bus was in collision with a lorry at Poole, Dorset.

## Clough honour

Brian Clough, who has managed Nottingham Forest Football Club for 15 years, is to be made an honorary freeman of Nottingham.

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## Magistrates want to abolish jury trial for minor theft cases

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

MAGISTRATES in England and Wales are expected to endorse a call at their annual meeting next month for the abolition of the right to trial by jury in cases of theft involving less than £200.

JPs from the 27,000-member Magistrates' Association are likely to give overwhelming backing to a motion calling for minor theft to be brought into line with other offences, such as indecent assault and assault on the police, which do not carry the right to jury trial.

The proposal will almost certainly be put to the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice when the association gives evidence later this month. At the same time, JPs are expected to raise the issue with the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor.

Joyce Rose, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, said that she did not wish to pre-empt debate. However, abolition of jury trial for petty theft won overwhelming support when JPs last debated the matter in 1980, and it remained association policy. If the motion were to be adopted, the association would probably raise the issue with the Royal Commission. "It is something we would like them to look at again. We feel it is a nonsense when you consider that equally serious offences,

such as assault on a police officer, are triable summarily only," Mrs Rose said.

Since abolition of jury trial for petty theft was recommended in a report under Lord James in 1977, it has been raised regularly by judges and magistrates. Lord Lane, the former Lord Chief Justice, repeatedly called for the ending of jury trial in such cases, and Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, said in December 1988 that the time was right to remove some minor offences from the crown court.

The government at that time had recently acted to remove certain minor offences in the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (such as taking a motor vehicle, common assault and criminal damage up to £2,000) but this could be extended, Lord Mackay said at a dinner in London.

Earlier that year a leak of a paper from his department disclosed that officials were drawing up proposals to put to ministers for curbing jury trial in some cases as a means of tackling a severe and growing shortage of circuit judges. No action was taken. The strength of the civil liberties argument — that a conviction for theft, however small, can destroy a reputation — has succeeded in persuading ministers that jury trial be retained.

Adrian Turner, honorary secretary to the Inner Manchester branch of the Magistrates' Association, which has tabled the motion, said yesterday: "This is being put forward again because of frustration that nothing has been done since 1977."

"The Crown Prosecution Service has a terrible dilemma in these cases: if someone elects crown court trial, the cost is likely to be considerable and they have to consider the prospect of success. In these circumstances, they may occasionally be tempted to drop charges."

Magistrates are also expected to back calls for scrapping the new fees charged for seeking orders in family proceedings. "These fees, £20 per application, can well be an obstacle to people going forward. We feel very strongly that when people come to the court in these cases they are often in distress and should not be put off."



Housewives' choice: passengers enjoy what could be one of their last trips on the King's Lynn ferry, across the Ouse in Norfolk. Shoppers

who use the ferry to cross between West Lynn and the town centre are worried that the service may be about to end after more than 850

years. Its four-minute journey saves a five-mile trip by car. The service has operated without interruption since 1125 but the operators,

Washport Bunkering Services, say that repair costs are high and the number of passengers — 1,000 a week — too small. Regular passen-

gers hope that an ancient act of Parliament forbidding the service from going out of existence can be invoked to save the ferry.

## Unease over bigger fines for the rich

FEARS have been voiced by magistrates that a scheme which will let them impose heavy fines on offenders with high incomes will create inconsistencies when it is introduced on October 1 (Frances Gibb writes).

The courts will have the power to fine up to £5,000, instead of the present maximum of £2,000, under a system which relates the size of fine to the offender's income. For motoring offences, for example, a low earner caught with defective tyres, steering or brakes could be fined £16 and a high earner £400.

The aim of the change under the Criminal Justice Act 1991 is to introduce a fairer and more consistent system of fines, but some magistrates are worried that different ways of calculating an offender's disposable income will lead to varied fines across the country.

Keith Broadbent, clerk to Swansea and Lliw Valley justices, said: "Our concern is that there will be marked inconsistencies in the way courts assess disposable in-

come. There is no common yardstick by which we should determine expenditure levels and necessities, and courts will have differing views about how to calculate these."

People on higher incomes often did have higher outgoings, some of which were inescapable, such as mortgage repayments, he said. Magistrates were struggling to find acceptable notional levels of spending on necessities.

"In the first few months, this problem is likely to lead to marked inconsistencies in the fines courts impose," he said.

There are also fears about public reaction to sentences which vary according to a person's income. Joyce Rose, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, said: "Some concern has been expressed. But on the other hand I feel that if the public understands the principle behind the scheme, that it is related to ability to pay, they will understand why the sentence for the same offence can vary." The present system was itself an injustice, she said.



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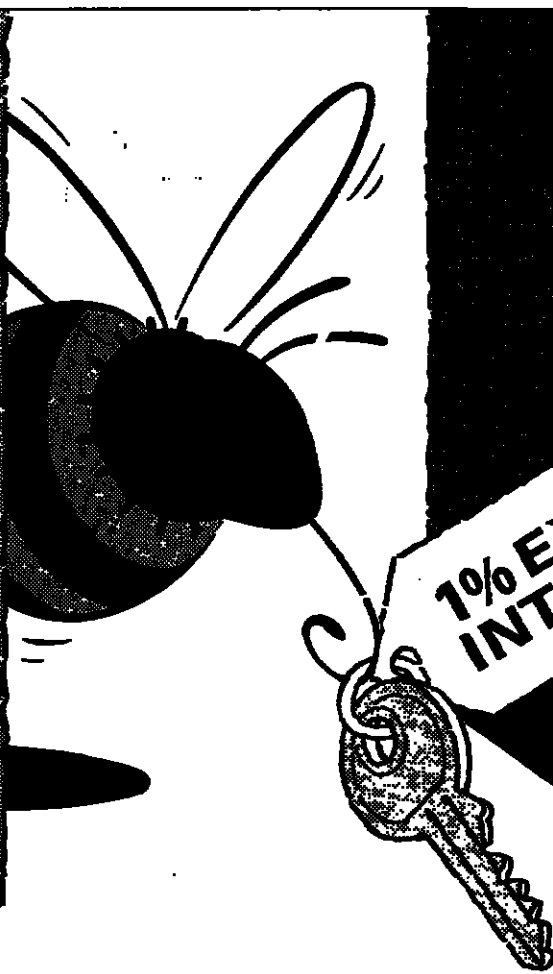
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## Smith battles to hold party line on Europe

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

WHILE John Smith's unwavering support for the Maastricht treaty sounds like an echo of John Major's statements, the new Labour leader has been made painfully aware this week that, like the Conservative party, the divisions on Europe among his own people run deep.

Almost by the hour, senior Labour politicians have been coming out of the woodwork to condemn the treaty as a step too far. Some, like Bryan Gould and Tony Benn, no doubt have one eye on tough fights to keep seats on the party's ruling national executive committee this autumn. For others, it is as if they have reached a point where they can keep quiet no longer.

The Conservative claims before and during the general election of Labour splits on Maastricht fell rather flat, given John Major's problems with the anti-EC lobby. When the Commons returned after the election the only satisfaction for Labour MPs, as their party was made virtually impotent by the Tories' electoral success and the leadership contest, was to witness the

party opposite tearing itself apart, aided and abetted primarily by Baroness Thatcher.

Up until last week Mr Smith hoped to ride out the hidden unease within his own ranks, knowing that he must wait upon the French and the Danes before deciding whether he wanted the treaty dead or alive. That ambition was thwarted when Mr Prescott disclosed last week that "there are varying kinds of view within the shadow cabinet" on the treaty.

So far Mr Gould, David

Blunkett and John Morris, all in the shadow cabinet along with Mr Prescott, have "come out" to dispute the official party line that Labour wanted the French to vote "yes" in the September 20 referendum. They handed Sir Norman Fowler, the Tory party chairman, the opportunity to exploit Labour's "slipperiness" on Europe.

But the shadow cabinet has others who have been fervent Euro-sceptics in the past, most notably the party's new deputy leader Margaret Beckett. She has shown no signs of breaking ranks, but Mr Smith can not ignore any views she might express privately about party tactics.

To muddy the waters, there are arguments within the party on whether Labour should change its opposition to a British referendum, with a sizeable number of Labour MPs appearing willing to vote for such a move in the Commons. A few genuinely believe the future of Europe should not hang on a referendum by the French or Danes, while others see an opportunity to humiliate the government.



Gould: keeping an eye on NEC seat



Fellow-travellers: Roger Freeman talks to WPC Sharon Sparrow late at night on the London Underground

## Minister puts trains to the test

By ADAM JONES

ROGER Freeman, the public transport minister, went on the subterranean beat with officers from the British Transport Police this week, to test public attitudes to the service on the London Underground.

After mixing with late-night travellers on the Tube and at British Rail's King's Cross station, Mr Freeman said that most of the responses he received had been positive.

He admitted that he had had to fend off abuse from at least one fellow-passenger, who appeared to be the worse for drink, although he said there was praise for the Underground from a party of German tourists.

"I've spoken to a number of passengers on the Underground and they think security has improved," Mr Freeman said.

The presence of video cameras, more uniformed police and better lighting had made travel safer, the minister added.

## Labour prepares to rethink on schools

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR leaders are preparing to drop the softer line on schools opting out, which they put forward after the general election.

A statement approved by the party's national executive committee in June urged Labour-controlled councils not to be hostile to grant-maintained schools. While continuing to oppose opting out in principle, the advice note was taken to be a step towards eventual acceptance of the new sector.

Motions submitted by constituency parties for debate at this month's party conference are overwhelmingly opposed to any accommodation, however. Eight of the 21 motions on education call for unconditional opposition to opting out.

Ann Taylor, Labour's education spokesman, said yesterday that the party's policy had not changed since the election, which was fought on a platform of returning grant-maintained schools to their local authorities. The June statement would soon be superseded by a new note on the government's education white paper, in which opting out was the central theme.

The timing of the advice note was unfortunate because the mood had taken a dip after the election and some people thought there would be an avalanche of opting out, which never happened. Mrs Taylor said, "This and the mistaken interpretation of the note by the media led some people to question what policy actually was."

Motions for the conference were drawn up much earlier in the summer, and party members have now realised that there has not actually been a change of policy. The position of being opposed to opting out stands.

The advice note, which was issued when Jack Straw was the Labour education spokesman, urged local authorities to reduce their role, adopt an even-handed approach to grant-maintained schools and try to win contracts to sell them services. Constituency parties were asked to support opt-out schools where parents and governors saw them as the best way forward.

Some of the conference motions are highly critical of this approach. The Brent party, in north London, urges all members to oppose the "retreat" on opting out, which it describes as an insult to constituency parties that are "organising intelligent and amicable campaigns to persuade parents not to be enticed by market-based Tory policies".

The St Albans party, in Hertfordshire, describes the acceptance of grant-maintained schools as premature. The Socialist Educational Association, which criticised the advice note in June, has submitted a long motion, restating Labour's intention to introduce a single state school system organised through local authorities.

Graham Lane, general secretary of the SEA, said: "I have had a lot of indications from constituency parties that the advice note was not helpful. Although most of it changed nothing, I think the document was a mistake because it gave the wrong impression. I am sure the conference will confirm our existing policy opposing opting out."

Inflation down, page 1  
Inflation slows, page 17

## Dublin firm on talks

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DAVID Andrews, the Irish foreign affairs minister, said yesterday he hoped Ian Paisley and other Democratic Unionist MPs would return to talks on the political future of Northern Ireland, but repeated his government's view that there could be no preconditions to continuing the process.

The DUP leader Dr Paisley and his deputy Peter Robinson had walked out of the talks on Wednesday because they wanted a higher priority given to discussing Ireland's territorial claim to the province.

In London yesterday at the second meeting of strand three of the talks process, the British and Irish governments agreed to invite representatives of the four main constitutional Northern Ireland

parties to a meeting on relations between the two governments.

To date, the province's politicians attend only meetings in strands one and two, which focus mainly on the future government of Northern Ireland and its relations with Ireland.

On Thursday Dr Paisley demanded an "unambiguous statement" from Dublin supporting a referendum to withdraw its claim over Ulster, embodied in articles 2 and 3 of the Irish constitution.

However, concern that the DUP would abandon the process altogether appears to have been dispelled. It now seems likely Dr Paisley and Mr Robinson will return to the negotiations when articles 2 and 3 are reached.

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## Diehard Greens plot to remove Parkin

By NICHOLAS WATT

SARA Parkin slipped virtually unnoticed into the back of the Green party conference hall in Wolverhampton yesterday and listened to the day's debates. Activists were far too busy discussing whether to abolish money to acknowledge last year's star billing, who is now denounced for resigning as leader.

A core of diehard Greens, who resent Mrs Parkin for betraying the cause when she said the party had become a liability to green politics, did notice her arrival. They met in private to plot her removal from the party at today's regional council meeting. The Greens are so riven by factions that Mullen Baker, one of Mrs Parkin's harshest critics, also faces moves today to prevent him from standing as one of the national speakers.

Mrs Parkin dismissed her opponents as anarchists who

were wrecking the party. Membership had declined from 18,000 to 8,000 and 75 per cent of people who had resigned said they were fed up with attempts to move away from Mrs Parkin's reforms.

David Icke will live up to the earnest Greens today when he gives a vintage performance at a fringe meeting to announce that he is still a loony. The former party spokesman, turned Son of God, who warned last year that Britain would be ravaged by floods and earthquakes, will say: "What I am, of course, is a loony... and when I look around me at what passes for sanity in the world today I thank God I'm a loony."

Before Mr Icke arrived in Wolverhampton Mrs Parkin's opponents jostled for the va-

cant posts on the national executive. Canvassing is not allowed so they could make only discreet murmurs about their views.

Derek Wall, 27, a teacher from Bristol, describes himself as a green Marxist. He said he would abolish the post if he won. Mr Wall is opposed by John Norris, 41, who is, appropriately, a civil servant in the environment department. His schoolmaster tone has done little to endear him to the delegates. The two could be defeated by Ron, which is an acronym for Reopening of Nominations. Under the party's rules the ballot has to be called again if candidates fail to win enough votes.

Apart from the Parkin side-show, delegates yesterday contemplated the recession. John Nicholson, of Arfon Green party offered an interesting panacea for the economy's woes. "We have got to get away from the constraints of money. We should do things for free." He advocated a system of bartering as way to run the economy.

Jean Lambert, one of the party's principal speakers, called on the party last night to form pacts with other parties and to field joint candidates.



Voice from the past: Sara Parkin stays well above the fray at the Green party conference yesterday. She faces moves to have her removed from the party

## Ashdown seeks to widen his appeal

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PADDY Ashdown told party activists yesterday they had a duty to widen the appeal for Liberal Democrat ideas by reaching to those outside the party.

As delegates gather this weekend at Harrogate, Yorkshire, for the party's annual conference, Mr Ashdown insisted that he remains against formal pacts with other parties but said the party needs to create a wider consensus for Liberal Democrat ideas, such as constitutional reforms.

Although he has provoked the internal debate on the party's way forward, he faces a severe bout of agonising by his supporters at the conference over the failure to make a breakthrough in the general election. Tomorrow's discussion on party strategy will indicate the reaction of party activists to his ideas for closer co-operation with other parties without advocating a return to the days of the Lib/Lab pact.

Although the organisers are anxious to prevent the election ineffectiveness overshadowing the conference, they recognise that discussion of cross-party links will lead to complaints that fear of Labour drove many potential Liberal Democrat voters into the Tory camp.

In his eve-of-conference message in the *Liberal Demo-*

crat News Mr Ashdown sought to damp down fears that the fourth Conservative victory has led him to toy with the idea of a formal alliance between non-Tory politicians. He said: "I do not favour national pacts and have never proposed them. We cannot make progress just by adding the votes of different parties, which stand for different things, and expecting them to produce a majority where none was before."

A group dubbed the Hope Valley Eight, led by Simon Hughes, Liberal Democrat MP for Southwark and Bermondsey, published a pamphlet yesterday warning Mr Ashdown that the party has "everything to lose and nothing to gain from trying to strike up a formal alliance or pact with any other political party". Mr Hughes told a press conference that the party suffered from the lack of a defining image which struck a chord with voters.

However he supported Mr Ashdown's suggestion of informal talks with Labour and other parties and did not rule out the prospect of a post-electoral deal with a future Labour government.

### TUC at Blackpool

## Pragmatism marks union turning point

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

IN DECEMBER of the year 2,000, when pundits sit down to compile an instant retrospective of the 20th century, September 1992 may come to be seen as a turning point in the history of the Trades Union Congress.

Sitting in a chilly pressroom attached to Blackpool's Winter Gardens as the 124th congress drew to a close yesterday, it was difficult to be sure. There is no disputing the unions have changed; 13 years of Tory rule, and the mutation of the economy which has accompanied them, have seen to that.

But the 1992 congress may be seen as the first where a real shift in attitudes, from idealism to pragmatism, became apparent. Two events during this week's debates seem of special significance. First was the speech on Tuesday by Howard Davies, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, the first by an employers' spokesman.

Mr Davies's decision to attend was brave, but not half as courageous as the decision to ask him. The engineers' union, whose general secretary Gavin Laird first addressed the CBI annual conference six years ago, has long lobbied for a reciprocal invitation.

But the engineers are firmly in the pragmatic, right-wing vanguard of congress. Leaders and activists of many public sector unions have been hide-bound by the dialectic of class war, and fears of mass protest could not be ignored. Even on Tuesday, there were some

tense faces on the platform as Mr Davies got up to speak. In the event, delegates behaved with good grace. The walkout by Arthur Scargill, the miners' leader, and 40 other protesters was a gift for the TUC leadership. It served to emphasise the isolation of the miners' leader in a way which the TUC has failed for years to achieve.

Within months of the abolition of the National Economic Development Office, the only forum in which management and unions met, the TUC has succeeded in opening lines of communication with the CBI.

And, as Mr Davies pointed out, there are areas, in training, in industrial policy, and in the TUC has succeeded in opening lines of communication with the CBI.

This ends a four-year rift with the electricians, and removes the danger that the new million-member engineering and electrical union might break away from the TUC.

The realism of the 1992 congress is a far cry from the rows of 1991, when Japanese work practices were pronounced "alien".

Labour's defeat, mounting deficit, and the emergence of the first new super-union have forced the TUC to re-define its role. Pragmatism, self-discipline, and the ostracising of the extreme left, are refreshing signs of a new mood.



Scargill: walkout a gift to the TUC

### Plea to protect BBC

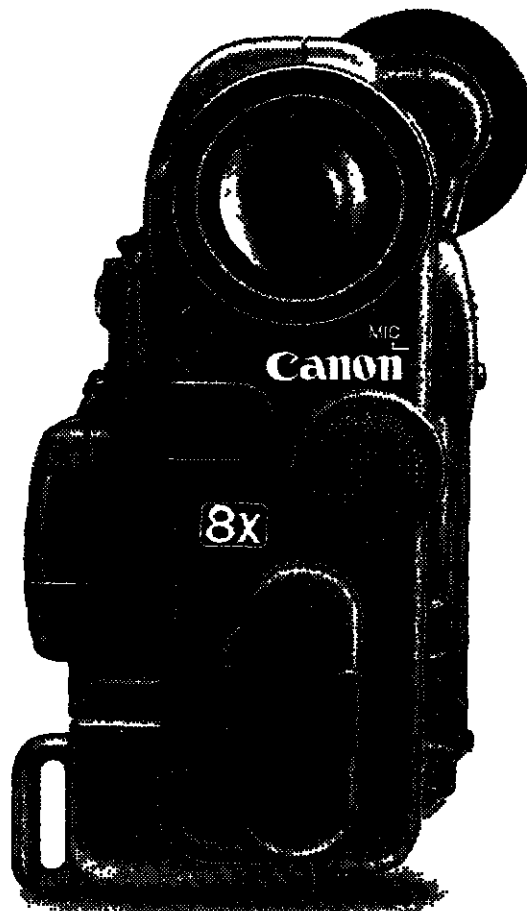
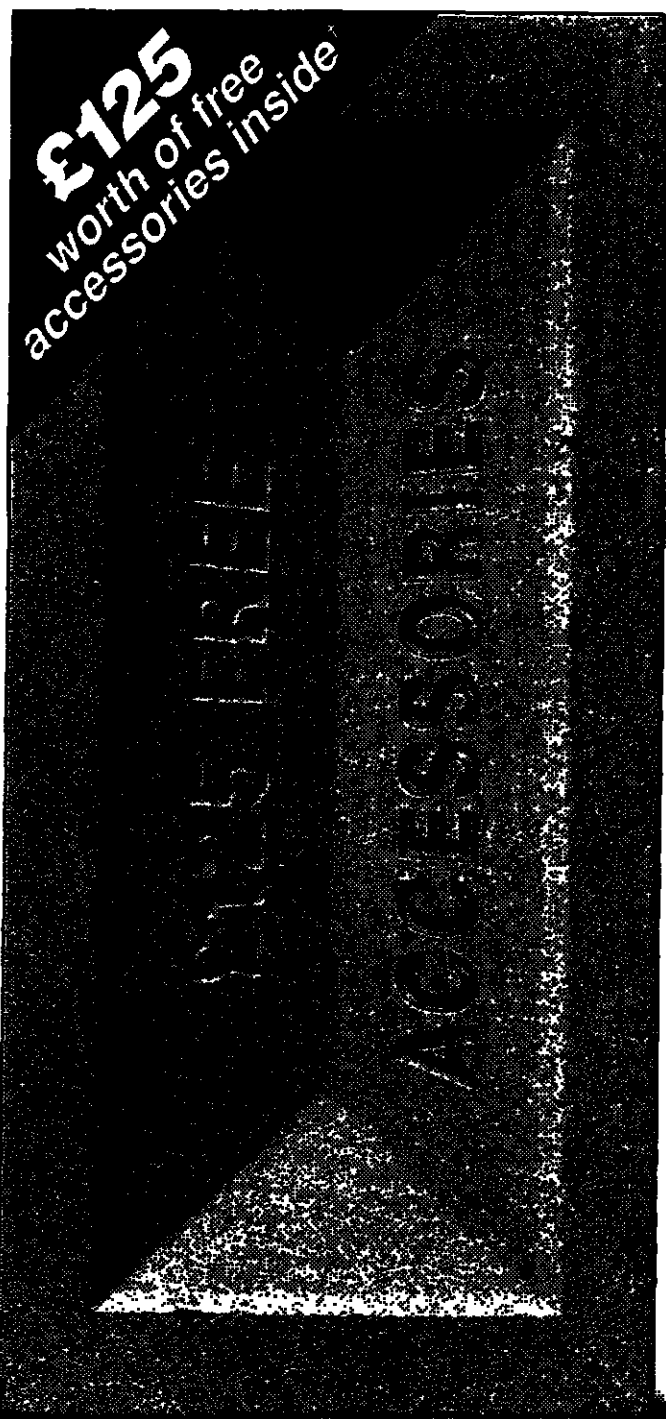
LEADING media unions yesterday called for government measures to protect the scope and integrity of the BBC's work (Ross Tieman writes).

The appeal comes amid mounting public debate about the future direction of the BBC, precipitated by an internal reorganisation intended to make the corporation more market-oriented. The corpora-

tion's charter is scheduled for renewal in 1996.

A motion before Congress, submitted by the Broadcasting, Entertainment, Cinematograph and Theatre Union, urged a campaign to ensure that the BBC remains Britain's principal broadcaster and producer of programmes both for viewing in Britain and for export.

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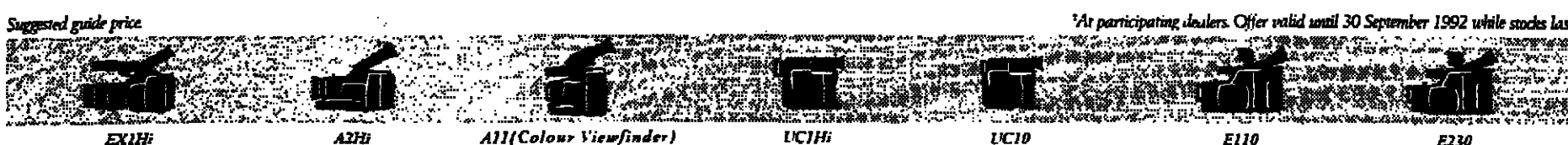
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ROUND UP THE BOYS,  
HITCH UP THE WAGON  
AND HEAD FOR PAGE  
SEVEN OF THE REVIEW.

## Pressure to devalue currency grows as speculators batter lira

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

SPECULATION that the Bank of Italy was about to raise the discount rate sent the lira shuddering yesterday during another *Venerdì Nero* (Black Friday) for the battered currency as traders scented devaluation may be inevitable even before the French referendum on European union.

The central bank denied the rumours that the lira had slumped below its floor in the exchange-rate mechanism, in the third successive day of currency turmoil, in spite of heavy intervention by the Bank of Italy, the Bundesbank and the Belgium central bank. The Bank of Italy alone sold 500 million Belgian francs and 870 million German marks on the Italian markets.

The president of the employers' federation, Luigi Abete, urged Giuliano Amato, the prime minister, to make big cuts in public spending in the 1993 budget, which is to be presented to parliament by the end of this month. Signor Abete called on Signor Amato to set aside, for the moment,

his request for emergency powers to make economic decisions without parliamentary approval.

The Italian treasury is pinning its hopes on the concerted central bank intervention that was promised at the recent meeting in Bath of European finance ministers and central bankers. The Bank of Italy economists still have a number of possible manoeuvres in reserve but the extent of speculation has left the lira on the ropes.

The newspaper *La Stampa* said this week that, sooner or later, devaluation would be inevitable. But the central bank is determined to tough things out at least until the budget for 1993 is passed.

Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, the governor of the central bank, believes devaluation would only give the economy a brief respite. It would be inflationary, probably forcing a further discount rate increase and this would in turn jack up the cost of servicing the highest levels of public debt in Europe.

Dr Ciampi also believes devaluation would allow the fragile coalition government to avoid making the necessary cuts to reduce the budget deficit and the public debt.

The central bank is evidently gambling on a "yes" vote in the French referendum on the Maastricht treaty. But many economists believe devaluation will come even if the referendum produces a slim majority for a "yes". The lira is widely thought to be overvalued by some 25 per cent but any devaluation would probably only be by between 10 and 15 per cent.

Some industrialists badly hit by last week's increase in interest rates believe the government should grasp the nettle of devaluation before the referendum.

"They are on a knife edge here," one Rome-based economist said. The package of measures announced by Signor Amato on Wednesday was intended as a signal to the markets of good intentions but it went wrong when parliament expressed deep reluctance to grant Signor Amato emergency economic powers for three years. The fact that Dr Ciampi had plainly been unaware that Signor Amato was to propose emergency powers heightened the impression of disarray in the government.

The Bank of Italy is depleting its reserves at a high rate but the central bank had amassed unusually high quantities of reserves a year ago in anticipation of the crunch. If concerted central bank intervention does not work, a discount rate hike once again cannot be excluded, economists say.

Italy also has the option of following in the footsteps of Britain and Sweden in borrowing marks to bolster its war chest of reserves but this would only increase public debt.

Commentators such as Guglielmo Negri of *Il Messaggero* newspaper urged the government to use the existing system of decree laws, which parliament has to approve within 60 days, to introduce drastic spending cuts immediately. But Signor Negri added: "If the government has got its sums wrong, the consequences will be of incalculable gravity." Mario Noera, an economist with an Milan merchant bank said: "The government has been caught out by the speed of events."

Leading article, page 13  
Weekend money, page 22

Letters, page 13

## Brittan soft-pedals warnings on 'no' vote

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE British government would be understandably upset by a "no" vote in the French referendum on Maastricht, but should immediately redouble efforts to implement European Community plans that did not depend on the Maastricht treaty, Sir Leon Brittan, the senior British commissioner, said yesterday.

He said that it would be completely unrealistic to reconstruct a substitute treaty. A French "no" would kill Maastricht, would cause a "tremendous shock" to the EC, and not until the dust had settled could Europe deal with the issues again. But much else could go forward: the completion of the single market, negotiating a successful Gatt world trade agreement, inter-governmental co-operation and the enlargement of the Community. Sir Leon said John Major would feel entitled to feel disappointed if Maastricht collapsed. "It would be unrealistic to go this far and then shrug your shoulders and say it was business as usual." It was essential that the momentum of the EC was not brought to a halt. He said that even if

France approved Maastricht, the government was right not to bring its own ratification bill before parliament before it was clear that Denmark was ready to reconsider its view.

Sir Leon, who met Poul Schlüter, the Danish prime minister, on Thursday, said there was little need for any renegotiation of the treaty. What Danish voters wanted was a clear explanation of the implications of the treaty, policy statements and reassurances that the treaty did not include binding provisions in areas such as defence.

Sir Leon said the commission had no collective view on the French referendum, and he said it would be unwise for Brussels to try to intervene to sway the vote. His tone, suggesting that "Brussels would not be panicked by a 'no' vote, is a change from earlier warnings by the commission, which was predicting turmoil in the Community should Maastricht collapse. Sir Leon appeared to think that such talk was counter-productive.



## Paris appeals to women for 'yes' vote

Campaign plea: Elisabeth Guigou, French minister for European affairs, addressing a meeting in Cahors yesterday as part of the government's campaign for a "yes" vote in the Maastricht referendum.

moment for the EC to which women owe so much, even if they do not always know it," Simone Veil, the former European parliament president, told the first summit of EC National Women's Councils which was arranged hastily to prepare for tomorrow week's referendum.

Mme Veil, a survivor of the Auschwitz death camps and one of France's most influential politicians, appealed to

women to back Maastricht for the sake of peace. Evoking the battlefields of eastern France, she said it was sometimes difficult to recall whether they had been victories or defeats, but everyone knew they had been the grave of countless French, British and Germans. She said that peace now looked assured, but rejection of Maastricht would launch Europe on an uncertain path. (Reuter)

## Kohl in party mood despite week of woes

BY IAN MURRAY

INVITATIONS to Helmut Kohl's tenth anniversary party as chancellor dropped through the letter-boxes of the great and the good in Germany yesterday.

The invitations are a measure of Herr Kohl's supreme confidence, but they were posted at a time when even the most loyal conservative newspapers were questioning his ability to stay in power and Wolfgang Schäuble, his own favourite to succeed him, was caught plotting to depose him. It is also a measure of the chancellor's control of his Christian Democratic Union (CDU) that Herr Schäuble has agreed to make the main congratulatory speech at the October 1 anniversary party.

Herr Kohl may have been in deep trouble this week both with the public — he is well down in the opinion polls — and his own party, but nobody who saw him dominate the Bundestag on Wednesday can question his determination to retain power until at least the 1994 general election. Herr Kohl has discovered that there are more problems in uniting Germany than he bargained for — and admits it. He promised a "flourishing landscape" in the east by the next election, but now says this goal may be unattainable before the year 2000; he promised not to raise taxes to pay for unification but did and now must find more money without alienating voters.

It was to overcome these problems that Herr Schäuble began to conspire against the chancellor. As floor leader of the CDU in the Bundestag, he keeps in close touch with the party's grassroots. His soundings have shown that the 67 CDU members from the East are increasingly unhappy with the slow progress to prosperity. They have formed their own block and are a powerful united voice within the parliamentary party.

Herr Schäuble decided that more money had to be raised to keep them happy and strongly backed the idea of a compulsory interest-free loan from taxpayers. Since the chancellor was less than enthusiastic, Herr Schäuble initiated discussions with Hans-Ulrich Klose, the opposition floor leader. Rumours of a grand coalition with Herr Schäuble ready to stand as chancellor spread rapidly.

Last Sunday, at a meeting of CDU Bundestag members, the chancellor out-faced the rebels. He warned them that they were in danger of sharing the fate of all those who have crossed him by being exiled to the party's remote fringes.

Herr Schäuble promptly climbed down and now has a cloud over his head which will probably stay as long as Herr Kohl remains in office.

That could, however, be for only another two years. The chancellor's failure to head off and condemn growing violent nationalism, and his inability to stem the influx of foreigners that is provoking it, is playing directly into the far right's hands. With 880,000 asylum seekers now living off the taxpayer in Germany, polls show that the radical right Republican party is consistently scoring well above the 5 per cent needed for parliamentary representation. The likelihood is growing, therefore, that the extremists will hold the balance of power after the next election. The only way to avoid bringing them into government then will be to form a grand coalition.

Herr Schäuble stands more chance than Herr Kohl of leading such a coalition. Like that of Baroness Thatcher before him, the chancellor's power is in danger of ebbing away just as he seems to have become a permanent fixture.

## Two Mafia bosses arrested

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN NAPLES

ITALIAN paramilitary police raided a villa in Naples before dawn yesterday and captured Carmine Alfieri, described as the long-sought leader of the Camorra, the Naples-based Mafia. In Rome, police arrested a convicted Sicilian Mafia boss sought for two years.

The arrests bring to four the number of gangland fugitives picked up this week, a sign that the state was intensifying its battle against the Mafia. Officials said that Signor Alfieri, 48, missing for 11 years, was found in an underground concrete chamber when carabinieri burst into the villa. Two bodyguards were also arrested. Signor Alfieri was wanted on several charges, including one having organised an attack on a rival gang in 1984 in which eight people were killed.

In Rome, the police arrested Francesco Cannizzaro, 55, described as a Mafia power in Catania, Sicily. He was sentenced to ten years in prison on charges of drug trafficking and criminal association.

## Mitterrand undergoes surgery

FROM SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH IN PARIS

PRESIDENT Mitterrand was said to be in a satisfactory condition last night after a routine operation for a prostate complaint at the Hôpital Cochin in Paris.

News of his hospitalisation on Thursday evening was released only after the operation had been performed. French television assured viewers that M. Mitterrand, who will be 76 next month, underwent the same treatment as 80,000 other Frenchmen every year. Experts informed the public that the operation takes between 30 and 60 minutes and would only have required a local anaesthetic.

Other doctors discussed the possibility that a malignant tumour, if found, could reduce the president's sex drive. A benign tumour would leave his desire undiminished, but may prevent him from father-



Brotherly care: President Mitterrand in a photograph taken earlier this year and, right, his brother, Robert, leaving hospital after visiting him yesterday

ing any more children. In his 11 years as president, M. Mitterrand had never had an operation until yesterday. As part of a commitment he gave

in his election campaign back in 1981, the Elysée Palace releases a medical report on the president every six months.

PARIS NOTEBOOK by Charles Bremner

## Helicopter becomes vogue mode for great escape

Even for a country with a tradition of dashing jail escapes, the past few weeks must be a record. Four times since late July and twice this week, helicopters have been commandeered to scoop French prisoners to freedom, or, as in the latest case, their deaths.

The vogue for airborne breakouts began in 1986 when the girl friend of Michel Vaujour, an armed robber, took a flying course and then picked him up from the roof of the Santé prison in central Paris. The exploit was copied several times in the ensuing years, sometimes ending badly. In an episode of black comedy in 1990, a Paris gangster was being hoisted skyward when another prisoner climbed up

the same rope. After a fight, the gangster fell to his death.

All of this summer's incidents have followed the same script. A "photographer" books a helicopter for a picture-taking flight. His camera turns out to be a gun.

On July 25, five prisoners from the notorious Gardanne gang caught a flight out of the Baumettes jail in Marseille. Three are still at large. On August 2, Ahmed Otmane, the leader of the same gang, was snatched out of a Dutch prison. On Monday, the inmates of Ploemeur prison in Brittany clapped as a helicopter freed a robber.

A day later, the high security prison at Saint-Maur, southwest of Paris, was the scene of a wild helicopter gun battle. Jean-Michel Beth-

mont commandeered a Bell jet helicopter from Blois, on the Loire, to spring his brother Christian, who was serving a 15-year term for an escape attempt. Hovering overhead, he dropped a bag of guns to other exercising prisoners

and a rope for his brother to climb. Guards shot

Bethmont dead as he dangled from the rope and wounded an innocent passenger and the pilot, who landed beside the prison. Jean-Michel Bethmont was arrested. In all previous cases guards had held their fire for fear of wounding hostages and causing the helicopters to crash.

Yesterday, the government ordered helicopter companies to check passengers' identities and intensify their programme of anti-helicopter defences. But the prison guards' union, which has been protesting over poor security, said the measures were grossly inadequate. The

union wants to see steel nets over all open areas.

France this week mourned the demise of the Renault 4. It was one of those special cars which, like the Citroën 2CV, the VW Beetle and the Mini had come to stand for an era.

Launched in 1961, the "Quatre L" as the boxy little Renault is always called, may not have been as eccentric or as maddening as the *Deux Chevaux*, that tin shed on wheels, but for minimal motoring it was more widely embraced. Dubbed the "crapaud triste" (sad toad) when it was born, the mchic R4 worked its way into the affections of the young, district nurses, working class families, firemen and the gendarmes.

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## Envoys complain to Milosevic of airport shooting

By TIM JUDAH and DESSA TREVISAN in BELGRADE  
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

LORD Owen and Cyrus Vance, respectively the European Community and United Nations peace envoys, had talks in Belgrade yesterday after a late-night flight from Sarajevo. They left the Bosnian capital as the official toll of Bosnian war dead since April rose above 10,000. Another 53,200 people are listed as missing, many of them presumed also to be dead.

Before starting talks with Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, Mr Vance told him that just before he and Lord Owen left Sarajevo "they started shooting across the airport again... We had to get it stopped specially before we could fly out." In reply Mr Milosevic asked him if he had seen the latest UN statement blaming Bosnian forces for the last four incidents in the Bosnian capital. The two

peace envoys had earlier met Milan Panic, the prime minister of the rump Yugoslavia, and senior military officials.

On Thursday, Vladislav Jovanovic, the Yugoslav foreign minister, resigned because, he said, Mr Panic was working against the interests of the Serbian people. But he turned up again yesterday at Mr Milosevic's side, having reclaimed his old job as Serbia's foreign minister. His resignation emphasises the bitterness of the Belgrade power struggle and demonstrates that Mr Milosevic intends leaving no doubt about where the real power lies.

In the wake of Mr Jovanovic's resignation, Mr Panic named five new ministers. Ilija Djukic, ambassador to China, was appointed to take over as foreign minister and Dragan Jovanovic, head

of Serbia's public auditing service, was brought in as finance minister, filling a post which had been vacant since Mr Panic became prime minister in July.

Also on Thursday, eight people were killed when a civilian bus travelling from Belgrade towards Pale, close to Sarajevo, was attacked, a Bosnian official said yesterday. He said the bus was ambushed by Muslim irregulars. But Stjepan Siber, a spokesman for the Bosnian military, blamed the attack on Serbian militia who, he said, were wearing royalist insignia.

After meeting Mr Milosevic, Lord Owen said the time for war had long since passed, adding that Mr Milosevic was "crucial" to any peace negotiations. Mr Vance said "the problems ahead were 'immense'". Mr Milosevic, however, sounded optimistic, saying that the London conference had signalled that the world no longer exclusively blamed Serbia for the war in former Yugoslavia. "This leads us to hope that the crisis will be solved much faster than we anticipated," he said.

Tanjung, the Belgrade news agency, reported from Washington that the administration there was about to "tighten the noose around Yugoslavia". Citing a State Department source, the report said that if the sanctions against Serbia were properly enforced "the Serbian people will rise up against President Milosevic". The report was given some credence when Nato agreed to offer more surveillance aircraft to the UN to aid its operations in former Yugoslavia. Three of the planes are already in operation.

A court at Karlovac in Croatia has acquitted a policeman on charges of shooting down 13 Serb prisoners of war on a frontline bridge as war raged last year in the former Yugoslav republic, officials said yesterday.

County court president Davor Rukavina said he had released Mihajlo Hrstov, a member of Croatia's special police units, for lack of sufficient evidence.



Fire and water: a man in Sarajevo yesterday carries home a box of firewood, left, in preparation for the coming severe weather and, right, people queue for scarce water supplies. The city is desperately short of energy for central heating and water pumping



## Serb businessmen find a bolt-hole in Cyprus

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

CYPRUS, once a base for Lebanese businessmen fleeing their country's collapse, has become a key centre for Serbian companies escaping the civil war, raising Western suspicions that some are breaking sanctions and laundering money.

Nearly 300 Serbian offshore companies were established in the first six months of this year, more than doubling the previous number. About 3,000 Yugoslavs, mainly Serbs, now live in Cyprus. Most are in Limassol, where many have bought seaside homes and where a Yugoslav restaurant recently opened.

They were drawn by the same attractions that has made Cyprus a regional financial base — low tax rates, a highly-educated local work force and excellent telecommunications. And they were propelled by the collapse of the banking system at home and the inability to do any business there.

The Greek Cypriots, like the Serbs, are Orthodox Christians, and Cyprus has strong historical links with Yugoslavia. Marshall Tito and Arch-

bishop Makarios, the former leaders of the two countries, were founding members of the Non-Aligned Movement.

A number of the recently established companies are owned by young individuals escaping the civil war. "I didn't want to fight in Milosevic's crazy war," said a Serb financial consultant. Many arrived at Cypriot ports with a bag of hard currency and their young families.

The concentration and vitality of the Serbian business community has alerted the attention of Western governments. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, publicly singled out Cyprus as one of the centres that had to be watched to ensure that "financial assets" were not "illegally transferred" back into Serbia. A Western official said: "We have evidence that some of these companies are sanctions-busting, but we can't prove it to satisfaction. It's hard providing the sort of detail to give to the Cypriots so they can take action."

Serb dissidents in Belgrade and Nicosia claim that Serbian government officials have siphoned off money into accounts in Cyprus and bought seaside homes on the island

to bolt to if the regime collapses. They also believe that Slobodan Milosevic, the president of Serbia and a former banker with friends in Cyprus, will move to the island if he is ousted.

The flood of Serbian companies into Cyprus has boosted the island as it strives to take advantage of its geo-

graphical position to promote itself as an offshore business centre for both the Middle East and Eastern Europe. The drawback is the companies have raised Western suspicions. Cyprus was "obeying the letter of the law on sanctions as much as other offshore and European centres", one Western official

said, but added that given the "vitality and the concentration of the Serbian business community it could do more". The total amount of Serbian money moved to Cyprus since the war broke out last year was about \$500 million, said one Western official, a figure Cypriot accountants said was "far too high".

## Yeltsin warns Russia of economic abyss

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin warned yesterday that regional officials were pushing Russia into an economic abyss. He said hyperinflation posed a serious threat and cheap credit and over-generous subsidies were dogging the transition to a market economy.

Mr Yeltsin's remarks were made at a meeting of local leaders in Cheboksary. He said the reforms launched at national level must now be carried out locally and warned his audience against believing they could continue to live "on an island of socialism... planning prices and rationing food". He admitted, however, that the process of reform was proving difficult and painful.

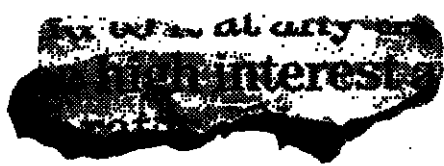
Mr Yeltsin's words were also intended for the ears of the new acting head of the central bank, Viktor Gerashchenko, who has begun issuing loans to state enterprises to

cover their debts. Mr Gerashchenko, a former head of the Soviet central bank, is a conservative intent on staving off industrial closures. He does not share Mr Yeltsin's enthusiasm for securing the verifiability of the rouble as soon as possible. The government had aimed at achieving that goal by the end of the year but now admits that it is unlikely before next spring.

The statements are Mr Yeltsin's reply to his internal critics who claim that reforms have been weakened under pressure from the industrial and agricultural lobbies.

Japan blamed Mr Yeltsin yesterday for the postponement of his visit to Tokyo and said he had no intention of simply giving away the Kurile Islands, which were seized by the Soviet Union at the end of the second world war. Japan has made large-scale aid conditional on their return. (Reuters)

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### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Nabiyev 'quit at gunpoint'

Khadzhen: Rakhmon Nabiyev, the former president of Tajikistan, declared yesterday that his resignation this week was forced from him at gunpoint, and he alleged that the former Soviet republic was now under the influence of Islamic militants.

Mr Nabiyev, speaking publicly for the first time since he resigned on Monday and took refuge in his northern stronghold, the Leninabad region, said he still hoped he could be restored to power. But he discounted suggestions that he could use Leninabad as a base for a campaign against the republic's new leadership.

"It was purely and simply a coup," Mr Nabiyev said. "I had no choice but to sign the resignation statement they gave me. If I hadn't, dozens would have died." (Reuters)

#### Polio halted

Atlanta: For the first time in cases of polio have been reported in the Americas for more than a year, the Pan-American Health Organisation said. Medical experts plan to ask an international governing body to issue a certificate announcing that the disease has been eliminated from the western hemisphere, where the last known case was on August 23, 1991, in Peru. (Reuters)

#### Polls threat

Pailin: The Khmer Rouge will boycott UN-supervised elections in Cambodia next May unless the United Nations responds to its demands, a senior guerrilla leader said. "We will not participate in the upcoming elections unless our demands are met," said Lieutenant General Ie Csiem, a regional commander in western Cambodia. (Reuters)

#### Spot the error

Delhi: Twenty-five years of tree planting to camouflage Indian bases has backfired. With surrounding areas becoming denuded of forest, the bases now stand out, and the military has asked permission to chop down the trees. (AFP)

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President risks losing Jewish votes

## Bush approves sale of F15 jets to Saudis

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Bush announced yesterday on the campaign trail in Missouri that he will allow the sale of 72 F15 fighters to Saudi Arabia, despite the disapproval of the Israeli government which fears that the move could tilt the military balance in the Middle East.

The announcement came as the president sought to sell in key states in the American Mid-West the repackaged economic renewal programme he outlined in Detroit on Thursday. American Jewish organisations quickly responded to his decision on the F15s and accused Mr Bush of unsuitable electioneering and of subverting foreign policy for crude domestic political ends. They said that the president was more interested in gaining the support of voters in Missouri, where McDonnell Douglas manufactures the F15s, than in ensuring military stability in the Middle East.

This is the second time this

month that President Bush has given his approval for a foreign arms deal. Last week, he announced in Texas that he was lifting a decade-long ban on military sales to Taiwan. To the anger of the Chinese government, he gave the go-ahead for Taiwan to buy 150 F16 fighters, thereby boosting job prospects in the Fort Worth area of Texas.

Although acknowledging that the Saudi deal, worth \$6 billion (£3 billion), would save 7,000 jobs in McDonnell Douglas's St Louis plant in Missouri and could benefit up to 200,000 defence workers at parts makers in Georgia, Florida, Connecticut and California, Bush administration officials denied that the sale had been dictated by electoral considerations. They insisted that the sale would not endanger Israel because Saudi Arabia had no intention of attacking the Jewish state.

Last week, Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, had

signalled the likelihood of the sale. He said the Saudis had "legitimate security needs, and we have an interest in helping them satisfy those needs". He pointed out that Saudi Arabia already has 84 F15s.

The sale risks losing Mr Bush over a million American-Jewish votes in November. In the 1988 election, about a quarter of the 4.3 million American Jews eligible to vote supported Mr Bush. Opinion polls in the past three years have shown a chill in Jewish attitudes toward Mr Bush, a reflection of the White House's tough stance on Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Independent pollsters believe the president's campaign strategists have decided that Mr Bush can forgo the Jewish vote totally if as a result he secures the backing of Missouri and gets the state's 11 electoral college votes. The Saudi sale will also help Mr Bush to consolidate his position in the Republican-leaning states of Connecticut, Georgia and Florida.

The Israeli government has been prepared for the announcement. Last week Yitzhak Rabin, the prime minister, told a seminar in Jerusalem that he was convinced the Saudis would get the F15s. He told the seminar, sponsored by a Washington think-tank, that he did not like losing the battle and still strongly objected to the sale, but he indicated that his cabinet would not mount a full-scale lobbying effort to try to defeat the deal in Congress.

Western diplomats in Washington said yesterday that they believed the Saudis may have made their support for the recent imposition of the allied "no-fly zone" in southern Iraq conditional on the F15 sale going ahead.

Jerusalem: Israeli officials said they were withholding comment on the F15 sale until they have the text of President Bush's announcement (Ben Lyndfield writes). Fresh from gaining approval for \$10 billion in loan guarantees for Soviet Jewish immigrants, the Rabin government has been conspicuously reticent about denouncing the planned sale.



Party act: Al Gore dancing recently with his wife Tipper. In banter on his plane he is often reminded of the time he bought her a jacket during a campaign visit to a Louisiana shopping centre — and forgot to pay for it

## Spirits soar on Gore's airbus

Martin Fletcher, on Al Gore's campaign plane, finds the candidate in informal mood

Al Gore's chartered 727 had just taken off from Raleigh airport in North Carolina. He was homeward-bound after five days on the stump, and in carefree mood. The man who aspires to be America's next Democratic vice-president rose from his seat, balanced on a tray, and "surfied" down the aisle of the steeply-climbing plane as aides, reporters and secret service agents cheered.

For several weeks the plane has been the travelling home of Mr Gore and his entourage, and it is beginning to resemble an airborne version of those psychedelic hippy-buses of the 60s.

The cabin is festooned with bunting and balloons, and the baggage compartments are covered with stickers, cards, photographs, cartoons, newspapers clippings, beads and charms — mementoes from every stop. A poster of Elvis Presley has pride of place, "Elvis" being Bill Clinton's nickname.

Travellers on Air Gore are rarely told to fasten seat belts or put their seats upright. Cases are not stowed away. Empty seats are littered with old meals, which go flying at every landing, joining old newspapers, broken cups and the odd life-jacket under the seat in front. The PA system plays pop music.

Mr Gore sits at the front, next to a little communications centre where he can speak to Mr Clinton's plane and receive faxes from the campaign's Arkansas headquarters. So formal and proper in public, the candidate often wanders back in his shirt-sleeves to banter with reporters.

There was the time he bought a \$60-jacket for his wife during an appearance in a Louisiana shopping centre and forgot to pay for it. There is the environmentalist politician's favourite joke: a man stranded in the Rockies kills and eats a condor to survive. Given the circumstances, the judge acquits him of killing a protected animal. Later, the judge asks the man what a condor tastes like and is told: "Half way between a spotted owl and a bald eagle."

Even the secret service agents, those dark-suited automations hidden behind regulation sunglasses, turn out to be human. They strip off their jackets and wander amiably around the cabin, their muscular frames covered in all the paraphernalia of their trade — revolvers in scabbard holsters, spare cartridges, wires running up their backs from radio transmitters to tiny earpieces, and strong leather braces to keep it all in place. "Hey Tracy," an agent shouts to a reporter as the flying caravan lands in Kentucky. "Get me on TV today!"

Leading article, page 13

## Honduras gains land in border dispute

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN THE HAGUE

THE world court yesterday settled a longstanding Central American border dispute between El Salvador and Honduras, giving Honduras roughly two-thirds of the disputed territory but ruling that it must share the Bay of Fonseca with Nicaragua.

The case was the most complicated ever handled by the court, judicial arm of the United Nations. José Segre-Camara, of Brazil, the presiding judge, said during the three-hour long reading of the ruling. He said the settlement was intended to "bring an end to one of the longest and most complex controversies among Latin American states". He added: "With goodwill, it is going to be an important contribution to bring peace, understanding and progress to a region of the American continent and to its people victimised by suffering due to

the scourge of conflicts and disputes."

At issue were six segments along the 160-mile border between the two nations, as well as the islands of Meanguera and Meanguerita in the Gulf of Fonseca, and the Gulf itself. Thousands died in a 1969 border war and the two nations decided to bring the dispute to the court, formally known as the International Court of Justice, in 1986.

The border dispute dates from the mid-1800s after both nations gained their independence. The ruling gave Honduras full control of the disputed segment at the delta of the Gascoran river and nearly full control of two other segments; the remaining three segments were apportioned between the two nations. Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua will jointly own the Gulf of Fonseca.

## Jilted lover wants his worldly goods back

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

DAISY, Daisy, give me your answer do is all very well, but when she does she'd better have a lawyer on hand.

Divorce has always been an expensive business in America, but a whole new field of lucrative litigation has been opened up by a Chicago lawyer who has unearthed an old state law and taken his former fiancée to court for ending their engagement. Last month, Frank Zaffere III

sued Maria Dillon, his former fiancée, for breach of promise after she broke off their engagement.

Mr Zaffere says he spent \$40,310.48 (about £20,000) courting Ms Dillon, a waitress in an Italian restaurant, and now he wants his money back. In the course of wooing Ms Dillon, 21, Mr Zaffere, 44, says he bought her a typewriter, a diamond ring, a fur coat, champagne, tickets to *Phan-*

*tom of the Opera* and many romantic (and expensive) dinners. He says his claim may rise when his latest credit-card bills arrive. He is also suing for the return of a red jumper, a Patsy Cline cassette and an umbrella.

Nevertheless he says he is still prepared to marry Ms Dillon, subject to certain provisions. He set out his terms for a rapprochement in a legal letter to his former lover, who

also plans to become a lawyer. Among the conditions is that she should promise eternal faithfulness and truthfulness. Ms Dillon says her former suitor tended to lapse into legal jargon even at the most romantic moments in their courtship.

Under a 1947 statute in the state of Illinois, the recently dis-engaged can sue for financial losses, but not for emotional wear and tear.

### PEOPLE

## Director is sued over police video

George Holliday, the man who videotaped white policemen beating black motorist Rodney King in Los Angeles, is suing the film director Spike Lee, seeking to stop him using the footage in his forthcoming film *Malcolm X*.

The federal copyright infringement action also names Warner Bros and its parent, Time Warner, producers of the £17.5 million film. It seeks a public statement from Mr Lee that he had no right to use the homemade videotape. The opening title sequence of *Malcolm X*, about the militant black leader, uses footage of the King beating.

The suit alleges that Mr Lee bought the tape from an agent who had been hired by Mr Holliday and no longer had the authority to negotiate rights to it.

The Vatican said the Pope will hold his first official appointment, since undergoing surgery in July, when he meets the visiting Romanian president, Ion Iliescu, at the papal summer residence of Castelgandolfo south of Rome, next week.

Nathan Cook, 106, the oldest known American war veteran, has died in Arizona. He lied about his age when he was 15 to join the navy in 1901 and spent 44 years in the service, seeing action in China, the Philippines and both the world wars.

The Romanian bishop, Laszlo Tokes, 40, has called off a hunger strike that had caused controversy during Romania's election campaign, saying that he wished "to contribute to a peaceful climate during the run-up to the general election", due later this month.

The former Soviet president, Mikhail Gorbachev, will start a one-week visit to Germany on September 15, during which he will meet the chancellor, Helmut Kohl.

## Wary Falklanders ready to meet Argentinians

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

AN ARGENTINE delegation due to meet representatives of the Falkland Islands government in Cambridge next week, for the first time since the conflict in 1982, will face an uncompromising warning from the islanders.

"Unless Argentina recognises our right to determine our own future and drops its sovereignty claim, there cannot be a relationship between Buenos Aires and the Falklands," said Terry Peck, one of two members of the legislative council attending the meeting, after arriving in London. "It has been claimed that we want relations between London and Buenos Aires to be bad. That

is not true. All we want is to be able to decide for ourselves what is best for us, not what they think is best for us."

The meeting will take place at St Catharine's College, Cambridge, at an Argentine-British conference, attended by MPs, academics and businessmen. Mr Peck, a former chief of police in the Falklands, will be accompanied by Norma Edwards, the only woman member of the legislative council, and Sukey Cameron, the Falklands representative in London. The Argentine delegation is believed to consist of three senators and a former ambassador to the United States.



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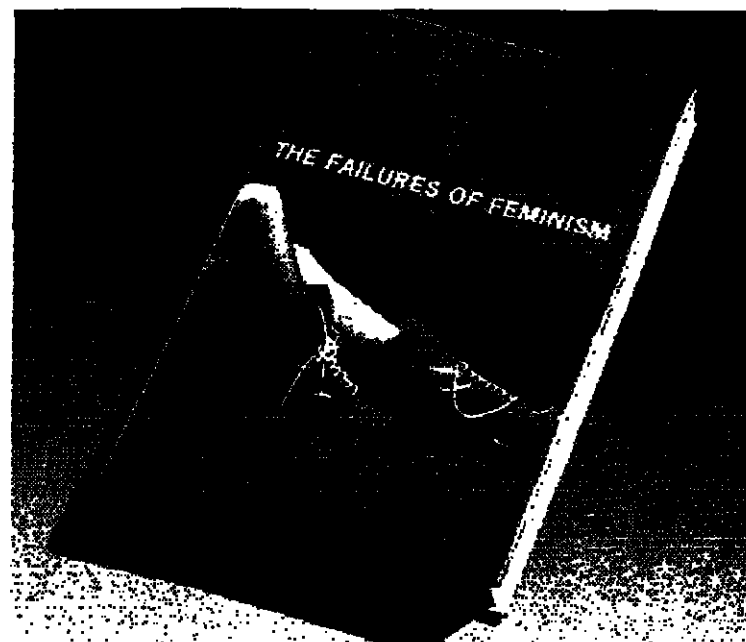


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## South Africa accuses ANC wing of plotting to kill Ciskei leader

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

UMKHONTO we Sizwe, the armed wing of the African National Congress, was accused yesterday of plotting to assassinate Brigadier Joshua "Oupa" Gqozo, the military dictator of Ciskei homeland, where 28 ANC supporters were killed this week.

Lieutenant General George Meiring, chief of the South African army, said in a statement released in Pretoria: "There is information that MK [the organisation's usual abbreviation] intends assassinating Brigadier 'Oupa' Gqozo. This can hardly be construed as adhering to the requirements for peaceful demonstrations."

He added that his information indicated that weapons, including small arms and a 122mm rocket launcher, and Ciskei police and military uniforms were being stockpiled. His allegations were described immediately as "absolute nonsense" by Siphiwe Nyanda, the Umkhonto chief of staff.

The timing of the general's statement may not help the forthcoming summit between President de Klerk and Nelson Mandela, the ANC president, but could put the black liberation movement on the defensive during the run-up to the talks. While there was a broad general welcome for the

organisation's decision to accept Mr de Klerk's invitation to discuss the continuing violence in South Africa, the first signs of possible difficulties are beginning to emerge.

Giving the ANC's response to Mr de Klerk's invitation, Cyril Ramaphosa, the organisation's secretary-general, made clear that acceptance was still conditional on steps being taken to satisfy ANC demands on three issues: the mainly Zulu worker hostels, the carrying of weapons in public, again mainly by Zulus, and the release of political prisoners.

Although those conditions could be met easily by the government, Mr de Klerk, although welcoming the ANC's acceptance, made clear that he would not countenance pre-conditions. "The additional questions in the ANC's statement can also be placed on the agenda of the meeting," he said in a statement. "What is now of critical importance, and what our country and its people demand of us, is that we should meet as urgently as possible," the statement added.

Mr Ramaphosa and Roelf Meyer, the constitutional development minister, whose meetings have recently provided the only contact between the two sides, are expected to

meet again at the weekend to try to settle a date for the leadership summit.

Yesterday, Ciskei again provided an illustration of the urgency attending the proposed meeting. The ANC reported that one of its members, Phakamisa Phike, 22, was picked up by Ciskei soldiers and taken to a local headman's house where he was beaten and left to die. Ciskei claims that three headmen have been killed since Monday and that the homes of 24 members of the Ciskei forces have been burnt. Another 32 houses or government buildings had been fire-bombed.

● Cape Town: Four members of the Indian crew of the Singapore-owned *Maritime Pride*, a vegetable-oil tanker, were asphyxiated in one of the vessel's tanks about 450 miles off the South African west coast yesterday. The ship's agent said it was bound for South America. (AFP)



Wasting away: children, too weak to move, sitting at a feeding centre in Baidoa, southwest of Mogadishu. Today Canada plans to airlift food to the Somali capital, while the US is to fly relief into Hoddur. The UN, however, has postponed relief flights until ground operations to distribute food and aid are better organised

## Floods in Pakistan kill 500

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN IN ISLAMABAD

MORE than 500 people have been killed and hundreds of villages washed away as torrential rain and floods swept the northern Pakistan provinces of Punjab, North West Frontier and Azad (Free) Kashmir.

Most of the victims were killed in landslides or drowned in rivers which burst its banks and swept away bridges and roads. Officials fear that the death toll might rise to more than 1,000 as some of the affected areas are cut off. It has been impossible to undertake relief work.

An emergency has been declared in the affected areas and the army has been called out to mount a rescue service. Train and air services were badly disrupted as heavy rain and mud washed away railway tracks and closed down airports. Air traffic at Islamabad and Lahore airports were also disrupted. The Lahore-Islamabad highway is also cut.

Azad Kashmir was the worst affected area with more than 100 people killed by landslides and flash floods.

## Thais cast spells to check poll fraud

FROM NEIL KELLY IN BANGKOK

POLITICAL forces labelled "satanic" are pitted against the "angels" in tomorrow's Thai general elections which offers voters a clear choice between a democratic system and another round of traditional politics characterised by corruption and military coups.

Presented as "devils" are politicians who supported the army's brutal suppression of pro-democracy demonstrations in Bangkok last May; the "angels" are the political parties that led the uprising and forced the military-dominated government out of office.

As the election campaign that has seen the most strenuous efforts ever in Thailand to stop vote buying and other malpractices came to an end, the government-appointed poll-watch committee hired witch doctors to invoke benign spirits to stop electoral fraud. The committee said: "Superstition is needed to fight satanic influences." The witch

doctors had their biggest ceremony in the constituency of General Chatichai Choonhavan, a former prime minister, who with other ministers was accused of corruption while in office. The army cited their corruption as justification for the coup last year. Reciting magic words, the witch doctors cast spells on pieces of animal hide and iron nails that later were scattered around the houses of suspects. The committee said the items would creep into the bodies of corrupt politicians.

More than 60,000 volunteers have been on the lookout for attempts to manipulate the election. Tomorrow they will man polling booths to stop fraudulent voting.

A campaign led by stars of showbusiness and sport reminded the public that they owed it to the army's victims to vote for decent candidates who believed in democracy. The medical profession, which suffered many casualties during the bloodshed, conducted its own campaign. Hospitals and clinics dispensing prescriptions also have been issuing leaflets to patients urging them to vote.

A promise to curb Thailand's notorious flesh trade came from one of the front-runners for next prime minister, Chamlong Srimuang, a retired general who led the May uprising. A devout Buddhist, he is renowned for his austere lifestyle. His main opponent is General Chatichai whose party is identified with the military.



Chatichai: target of witch doctors

## Arab women turn heads with veiled fashions

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

DESPITE Egypt's economic gloom, one business is thriving — Islamic women's fashions are in great demand as a tide of Muslim fundamentalism sweeps the Arab world.

With the number of women wearing the veil annually doubling in Egypt, the *muhagabat* (veiled ones) are displaying the same enthusiasm for the new modest fashions as they did previously for trendy imports of Western designer wear.

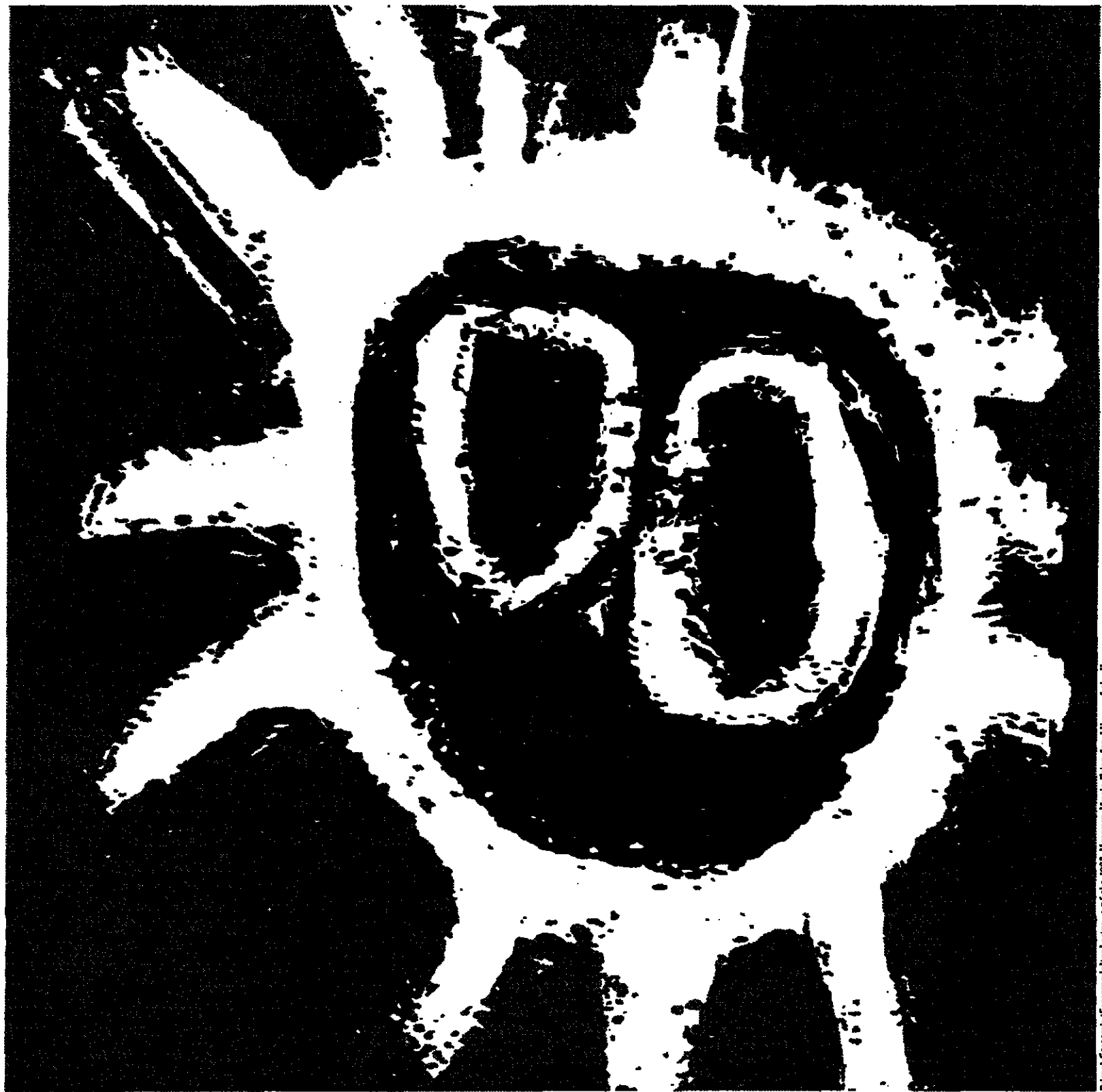
For most of the *muhagabat*, including even show-business stars who have renounced their careers, being veiled does not mean spurning fashion. Islamic designer shops selling clothes that combine long sleeves and ankle-length hems with bright colours and modern fabrics have spread widely.

The veiled women have even acquired their own magazine, *Elegance and Decency*. Preaching a message that not all fundamentalists would approve, it dedicates many pages to

marital advice for the *muhagabat*, reminding them that the veil should not make them neglect beauty care or their appearance. "What every veiled wife should know is that *hijab* (the half-veil favoured by Egyptians) means hiding from the looks of strangers the parts that attract men, at the same time preserving her beauty and femininity purely for her husband," it advised recently.

The trend was clear yesterday on Ismailia Square in Cairo's fashionable Heliopolis district. On one side, the *Ted Lapidus* boutique was nearly empty; on the other, scores of veiled women thronged the three-storey *Salam* shopping centre where fashions are advertised as being "for the *muhagabat*".

Supervising a female sales staff of more than 30 who were wearing a rainbow of veils, Ibrahim el-Barbours, the manager, said: "Business is very, very good. It is getting better all the time."



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There were more than a few raised eyebrows when the 1992 Mercury Music Prize went to Primal Scream. The band's *Screamadelica* was, at first glance, hardly the

most obvious choice for Album of the Year. But in the music business, as in the telecommunications business, the best choice isn't necessarily the biggest name.



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## Clifford Longley

### Catholic attitudes to gay rights are inconsistent

George Bush's family values platform has had unexpected reinforcement from the Vatican. Both have declared it to be incompatible with Judeo-Christian morality that homosexuals should have the right to equal treatment with heterosexuals in such matters as employment and housing. A letter from the Vatican, urging American bishops to resist equal rights legislation, was recently leaked. It provoked anger from homosexual groups in America and agitation among their British opposite numbers. There is clearly a movement among gay campaigners to begin to target the Catholic church, marking a change from the sporadic warfare over homosexuality inside the Church of England.

Gay rights has become a live issue in many municipalities in America, where campaigners are attempting to have local legislation passed to outlaw discrimination on the grounds of homosexuality. In some cases they are finding the local Catholic church, fortified by Vatican encouragement, a formidable obstacle — though in others they are finding it divided.

There is no Christian doctrine requiring the church to uphold discrimination against homosexuals in secular matters. Indeed, guidelines on the treatment of homosexuality in the Catholic church in England and Wales, which would find a ready echo in the thinking of other British churches, oppose social discrimination. These guidelines, like the Vatican's letter, take advantage of a perhaps ultimately untenable distinction between a "practising homosexual" and a person of "homosexual orientation". But a message with a degree of tolerance is there.

The Vatican has now made its advice to the American bishops public, and in the process has toughened it. There is a danger, it said, that granting entitlements to homosexuals might encourage them to "come out" in order to claim such rights, implying that coming out is *ipso facto* deplorable. The English Catholic guidelines, in contrast, positively encourage coming-out as a step towards emotional maturity.

While mischief-making and name-calling would merely irritate, a well prepared debate on attitudes to homosexuality could be constructive both for the Catholic church and for homosexuals. For instance the church must say why, if it is legitimate for society to discriminate against homosexuals, it is not just as legitimate to discriminate against Catholics. What the Vatican has forgotten is the necessity for some basic ground rules for a plural society, containing the conditions for coexistence between groups of people who do not necessarily approve of each other.

Such ground rules are more likely to be fashioned by robust debate than by each group ignoring the others' existence, which merely leads to mutual stereotyping and then group hatred. Having past experience as a persecuted minority in Britain, and as an "ethnic cleansing" victim of the Protestant ascendancy in Ireland, the Catholic community should be well equipped to understand what it must be like to be a member of another marginalised group. Few sights are more disgusting than a once-persecuted minority eventually winning acceptance, respectability and power, then picking on down-trodden groups below them in the pecking order.

What an honest dialogue must acknowledge is that reticence in the public discussion of homosexuality, though understandable, can conceal bad arguments or false distinctions. Much of the language used is dangerously vague or lacks agreed definition. Thus churchmen and most other people wanting to appear unprejudiced like to make a distinction between persons "with a homosexual orientation" (towards whom they say they feel goodwill) and homosexuality as an activity that is "practised", which they dislike or deplore.

It is time the full rigour of moral theology was applied to test the validity of this division of homosexuals into two separate categories, one which may be discriminated against, one which may not. The distinction between action and orientation may in time come to look incapable of sustaining the weight usually put on it. On closer inspection the very concept of an orientation, an attribute of sexual identity which is attached neither to feeling nor action, may not be a human reality at all but a metaphysical invention, a mere escape route for uneasy consciences. The first step may be to redefine a homosexual as a human being, and start again from there.

## Gender differences can no longer be put down to social conditioning, writes Nigel Hawkes

# Sex is all in the brain

colours. Around the growing boy the prison walls of the new man have begun to close almost from the moment of birth, while girls have felt failures if they want to become nurses rather than electricians.

Such is the frailty of fashion that this period of well-meaning behaviourism has actually coincided with growing evidence that men and women are very different indeed, and that these differences have little to do with their upbringing but lots to do with the chemical factors that distinguish them.

A growing body of scientific evidence now indicates that the brains of men and women are differently wired from very early in life as a result of sex hormones, and that this really explains the different abilities and skills of the two genders.

The recognition of this truth has come as a relief to many

researchers who set out with other ideas. For example, Camilla Benbow of Iowa State University, who has demonstrated that high mathematical ability tends to be a male preserve, has said: "After 15 years of looking for an environmental explanation and getting zero results, I gave up". She now accepts that these differences are biological in origin.

An excellent summary of the present state of knowledge is provided by Doreen Kimura, a professor of psychology at the University of Western Ontario, in the current issue of *Scientific American*. (A remarkable proportion of those working in the field of sexual differences are women, interestingly enough.) In Professor Kimura's laboratory it has been shown that boys as young as three are better at target-directed motor skills — in ordinary language, hitting or

catching balls — than girls of the same age. Nor is this a consequence of greater practice: boys simply appear better equipped by nature to become cricketers or baseball players.

By the same token, girls have greater verbal fluency, learn languages more easily, are better at remembering landmarks from a route and carry out some manual tasks more skilfully. While men will learn the route for a journey by rote — "third left, second right, straight on at the roundabout" — women will memorise it by landmarks, recalling that the right turn is close to Woolworths. The male approach makes men better at reading maps, according to Thomas Bever of the University of Rochester.

By running rats through mazes, Christina Williams of Barnard College has shown that these gender-related behaviours

can be reversed. Newborn male rats deprived of the male sex hormone testosterone navigate like females, while masculinised females get around like males. The Darwinian explanation for this is that male mammals with several mates must navigate skilfully to find them all, a hypothesis given a useful head of steam by the finding that meadow voles, which are polygamous, show gender differences in navigation while the monogamous prairie vole does not.

Professor Kimura is in no doubt that the effects of early exposure to sex hormones are considerable, and lifelong. Girls with a genetic defect that exposes them to high levels of masculinising hormones in the womb grow into women with spatial skills that are more typical of men.

Exactly how these differences arise is not yet clear, but the

accumulating evidence is strong. The brains of girls and boys are made in a distinctive way that may determine how well they perform in certain specialised tasks.

This may mean that we may never see equal numbers of men and women in physics and engineering, or a woman chess master able to beat the best men. In other fields — Professor Kimura suggests medicine, where perceptual skills are important — women may in due course constitute a majority.

The fact that sex differences are real does not, of course, justify discrimination. In both sexes the range of ability is wide, with large areas of overlap; and most professions require a blend of skills which can be provided in more than one way. Nor do the inborn differences mean that environment is irrelevant.

But it is no longer good enough to pretend that there are no differences beyond those imposed by convention and social behaviour, or that to look for such inborn differences is in some way an improper activity.

## Few historians have had such standing in national life, says David Cannadine

During the first half of this century, George Macaulay Trevelyan was much the most famous, the most honoured, the most influential and the most widely read historian in Britain. From the time when he published his Garibaldi trilogy, between 1907 and 1911, to the appearance of his *English Social History* in 1944, Trevelyan occupied an unrivalled national position as public teacher, public moralist and public benefactor, wielding unchallenged cultural authority among the governing and the educated classes of his day. To his contemporaries, he was simply Clio's truest and most trusted voice.

He had an astonishing range of establishment connections. His great uncle was Lord Macaulay, and his father, Sir George Otto Trevelyan, was both a cabinet minister under Gladstone and the historian of the American Revolution. Among his relatives and in-laws were J. M. Keynes, E. M. Forster and Aldous Huxley. One friend and fellow Old Harrovian, Stanley Baldwin, made him Regius Professor of Modern History at Cambridge in 1927. Another, Winston Churchill, made him Master of Trinity in 1940. But this high standing in official circles was paralleled by his popularity with the general public.

By 1914, the Garibaldi books had established him as the best-selling historian of his generation. By 1940, *England Under the Stuarts*, first published in 1904, was in its 17th edition. By 1949, the *History of England*, which originally appeared in 1926, had sold 200,000 copies. But this was far surpassed by the *English Social History*, which came out in 1944, and within a year had sold 100,000 copies.

There had been nothing like it since Macaulay — a precedent of which Trevelyan was well and happily aware.

Before the first world war, most of his journalistic writing appeared in such Liberal periodicals as the *Independent Review* and *The Nation*.

But he was already using the letters columns of *The Times* as a way of attracting public support for his earliest preservationist endeavours. In 1912 he sent a letter supporting the National Trust's appeal for £4,000 to acquire the Roman fort at Ambleside, near the head of Windermere. And in the following year, he wrote protesting at the proposed motor road over the Scafell peaks. During the inter-war years, Trevelyan became more directly concerned with safeguarding what he once described as "the calls and claims of natural beauty", and this resulted in a stream of letters to *The Times* urging the need to preserve the increasingly threatened Lake District, and his own gifts of farms in Langdale were widely and appreciatively reported. In 1925 he persuaded Asquith, Baldwin, MacDonald and Grey



Trevelyan with his wife. *The Times* once called his books a 'public benefaction'

of Faldon to write to *The Times* urging that the Ashridge estate, which included some beautiful hills, woods, commons and parkland near Berkhamstead, should be saved for the nation. And he

also used the paper to publicise the Youth Hostels Association, of which he became the first president in 1930.

By then, Trevelyan was contributing lengthy articles to *The*

*Times* on historical topics and current events, including essays on Sir Walter Scott as novelist and historian, and on the Duke of Marlborough and the Act of Union with Scotland in 1707. In 1932, he published two extended pieces celebrating the centenary of the Great Reform Act, which he described as "an affair of which Englishmen of all classes and parties may be proud".

Two years later, he wrote the front-page article in *The Times* commemorating George V's silver jubilee, and for the coronation of George VI in 1937, he contributed another essay on monarchy and the constitution.

Not surprisingly, Trevelyan's own books were prominently and appreciatively reviewed in *The Times*, where they were once described as a "public benefaction". When he published a memoir of his father in 1932, a leading article appeared, entitled "three generations", celebrating Britain's greatest historical dynasty. And every major event in Trevelyan's life was greeted with approving editorial comment. His obituary notice glowingly described him as "a great Englishman", and there was a final leading article.

Among 20th-century historians, Trevelyan was unique in

receiving such sustained and respectful attention from the newspaper and it is significant that his connection was at its closest during Geoffrey Dawson's second innings as editor, which lasted from 1923 to 1941. Like Dawson, Trevelyan believed in the world of inter-war decency as personified by Stanley Baldwin. Like Dawson, Trevelyan was an appeaser, who supported the National Government and the Munich settlement. And like him, he regarded the second world war as an unmitigated catastrophe, "an age steadily lapsing and finally rushing into barbarism", as he described it in a private letter to Dawson in July 1941.

For half a century, Trevelyan devoted himself single-mindedly to the fulfilment of his ambition: to make history once again an integral part of the national culture of his time, as it had been in Macaulay's day. He drove himself unrelentingly, worked prodigiously hard, and lived in genteel austerity. As one observer remarked, his was a life "unwarmed by the slightest hint of self-indulgence".

For Trevelyan was an outstanding product of the Victorian "culture of altruism". He believed that mankind had a duty, not only to make the best of his talents, but to serve the public and the nation. In his books, his essays and his journalism, that is what Trevelyan accomplished — guiding his fellow citizens through the past, helping them understand themselves in time, giving them hope, encouragement and reassurance. The era in which he lived was too dark for him to have been a happy life, but it was uncommonly rich in achievements and in rewards. "I have", he remarked with pardonable pride, towards the close of his illustrious career, "done what I set out to do."

The author is Professor of History at Columbia University, New York. His book *G.M. Trevelyan: A Life in History*, will be published by Harper Collins on September 24 at £18.

## ...and moreover



### PHILIP HOWARD

The language has meteoric, as the heavens do. At a recent paper to a scientific symposium at Smolenice in Slovakia, Dr Colin Keay, of Newcastle University in New South Wales, discussed the noise that meteor fireballs make as they enter the atmosphere. This electronic sound seems a narrow speciality, of interest only to scientific star-gazers.

But, according to unscientific observers, the sound said to be made by meteors is odd. The only previous survey of fireball noise covered 43 cases in North America and 63 in Russia before 1951. Their accounts divided into three classes: smooth, staccato and sharp sounds. Smooth ranged from hissing to rushing. Staccato from crackling to sizzling. And sharp from bang, crackle and pop to boom. Professor Keay has recorded another 167 sightings of meteors since then. There is remarkable agreement in the words used to describe the noise of meteor fireballs by people of different nationalities over different periods.

Some were evocative. A woman who saw the Murchison meteorite event in rural Victoria, Australia, in 1969, was startled by a hissing noise that reminded her of car tyres being driven over a wet road. As there were no cars, nor roads, nor rain around, she looked up, and saw that strange daylight fireball. But most observers from more than 50 years describe the problematic noise made by fireballs with the same old clichés: rushing wind, sizzling, buzzing,

The anomaly is the description "whoosh". Nobody used this word before 1962. After 1962, in Professor Keay's report, whoosh is one of the most popular lay descriptions. Shorne mistake here, Prof?

The numbers are too large for the arrival of whoosh to be a sampling error. It is highly improbable that, in the past 30 years, meteor fireballs have changed the noise they have been making for millennia. For some reason whoosh has recently come into several languages as a popular echoic or onomatopoeic description. But the word is not new. It has been whooshing around for well over a century, favoured by an impressive number of literary meteors.

Its first recorded use is by Dickens in a letter to Wilkie Collins in July, 1856: "The boys whooshing and crying (after the first cat No. 2) 'French!'. 'Here she comes!' 'H.C. Wells was very fond of whooshing in his scientific romances, which were the beginning of the new genre of science fiction. Mark Twain and D.H. Lawrence used whoosh. It was a word that appealed to the new writers of a new age. Here is an example from 1917: 'Huge projectiles whooshed noisily through the air'.

James Murray, "Dictionary" Murray of *The Oxford English Dictionary*, coined the term echoism to describe a word that echoes a sound in nature, as "splash" echoes a liquid striking something or something striking a liquid, "crunch" mimics something brittle breaking into pieces,

and whoosh describes exactly the electronic sound of a fireball. Tenyson was strong on colours but deaf to noise when he wrote: "Now slides the silent meteor on, and leaves a shining furrow, as thy thoughts in me." That meteor actually made a mysterious whoosh.

The "bow-wow" theory of the origins of language suggests that language comes from people imitating the sounds of the environment, especially animal and bird calls, as in cock-a-doodle-do, cuckoo, bow-wow, and buzz. It is an unpersuasive theory, because very few of these echoic words exist in any language. Another name for echoism is onomatopoeia, "making a name".

In English we find it most often in children's stories: ding-dong, rat-a-tat-tat, buzz buzz. This happens in comic strips and cartoons. WHOOP! POW! KERSPLAT! ZAP! It is the language of advertising, which is both childish and vivid: "All three Kodak disc cameras go buzz, buzz, flash. One goes tick, rock, beep, beep. And anyone who gets one for the holidays will go ooooooh!"

Echoism happens when a writer tries to build up a sound effect: "The childhood dreams of the grinning Fe-Fi-Fo-Fum giant swinging his axe... the slush-slurp of the Creature emerging from the Black Lagoon." Echoism occurs more in some languages. Japanese has three times as many onomatopoeic expressions as English. But whoosh has arrived as the international echoic for fireballs.

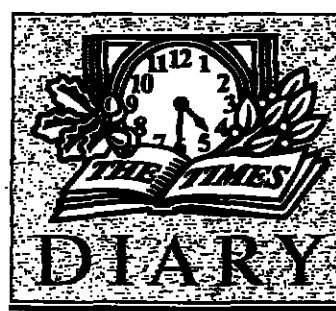
## Harmony in the Albert Hall

TO THE disappointment of connoisseurs of media wars, the prospect of Michael Grade sharing the same box as senior BBC executives at the Last Night of the Proms this evening has been narrowly averted. The Channel 4 boss was on the special guest list drawn up by the affable John Drummond, the director of the Proms, before Grade delivered his now notorious speech at the Edinburgh television festival last month.

Given that Grade had described the BBC as living in a wonderland and run by a "pseudo-Leninist style of management", Drummond immediately realised that diplomatic skills the equal of a David Owen were necessary. Fortunately the invitations were still awaiting to be sent out and the one addressed to Grade — the "Bourbon in red braces" as Marmaduke Hussey called him — was discreetly lost. Yesterday Grade was unconcerned by the snub. "To be honest I don't think he was really expecting an invitation," said a spokesman.

Yet not all potentially explosive combinations have been so successfully avoided in the course of the long season. Last week Will Wyatt, the managing director of BBC television, found himself in the difficult position of sharing a box with David Jessel and Liz Forgan, director of programmes at Channel 4. Between the issue of the invitations and the concert, Jessel and most of the team that work on his *Rough Justice* team defected to Channel 4 in high dudgeon.

The senior BBC management failed to give us much support or share in any of our triumphs," Jessel said at the time. The music had a soothing effect and the evening apparently passed without



incident. Heaven knows what might have happened if the orchestra had struck up those menacing opening bars of the Mars theme from Holst's *Planets* suite or launched into the cannonade from the "1812" overture.

● Britain's biggest bankrupt is in arrears with his trade union dues. Brother Kevin Maxwell owes the London executive staff branch of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance union about £50 in unpaid subscriptions. "If he cares to give me a call I am sure we can negotiate a reduced rate now he has signed on the dot," says Barrie Sherman, the branch secretary. Sherman is even offering to send his recalcitrant member a copy of his new book about virtual reality. The title? *Glimpses of Heaven, Visions of Hell*.

### Circular argument

JEAN-PAUL SARTRE'S definition of hell was "other people" but Christmas on the M25 surely runs a close second. Not at all, says the M25 group, a conglomeration of hoteliers and businessmen located around the dreaded ring. In fact, they say, Christmas is the only day of the year when the motorway can be enjoyed in its full glory, and the 120 deserted miles travelled without impediment. They are even offering a commemorative plate and

an M25 survival Christmas stocking, to those making the round trip. "We think it is a winner," says organiser Peter Rand. Those who have ever broken down on a motorway on Christmas day and found all the garages closed might take some convincing.

### Frock tactics

YES, they will go to the ball. The alarming — or perhaps delightful — thought of 30 debutantes turning up to the Queen Charlotte's Birthday Ball in their birthday suits at Grosvenor House on Monday has receded. Ever since it was announced last week that Berkeley,



the provider of the deb's ball gowns, had gone into receivership, the ball committee has been in seeking an alternative sponsor. Now a fairy godmother has come forward in the form of Queen Charlotte's Hospital. The trustees have agreed to stump up the insurance which was required before the receivers were prepared to loan the gowns for the evening. The sighs of relief at the dress rehearsal as the girl's practised their curseys this week were audible.

## On another channel

WITHOUT a roundhead in sight, David Gower, the last of the cricketing cavaliers, launched his controversial autobiography at one of Covent Garden's most fashionable watering holes on a Thursday night. "You may have noticed Micky Stewart, Graham Gooch and Ted Dexter aren't here," said Gower, whose trenchant criticism of the England management in the book many suspect cost him a place on the winter tour to India — despite the fact that the cricket authorities had passed the book for publication. But Gower had an explanation for that, too. "I don't think Lord's has actually got around to reading it yet."

Gower, who is involved in wildlife conservation projects in Africa, said his original title for the book had been *Endangered Species*. Indeed, and England's finest batsman in 20 years enjoyed support from some other endangered species among his guests, too. Lord Gilmour, who famously did battle with the roundheads in the Thatcher cabinets of the 1980s, was being far ruder about the test selectors than he ever was about his political opponents. Gary Lineker, that rare adornment, a gentleman footballer, felt Gower's omission was a bigger national tragedy than the defeat of the England football team in the European Championships this summer.

Gower himself made no effort to hide his disappointment. "I would have loved to have gone," he admitted with feeling. But there are compensations. The cricketer said by Keith Fletcher to be "too old" at 35 marries Thorun Nash at Winchester cathedral next Friday and is then off to Australia in November to cover their season for Channel Nine. One suspects England will miss him rather more than he misses England.





## LABOUR'S CHANCE

There are two rocks over which the government is most likely to stumble — the economy and Europe. The official Opposition has done no more than stand back and watch. Labour is scared of being seen as the party of devaluation and inflation. Such is John Smith's devotion to Europe that he cannot with any integrity lead his party to vote against ratification of the Maastricht treaty. But there is one political tactic open to him that would both embarrass the Conservative party and neutralise the divisions in his own: he could call for a referendum.

When Labour veered abruptly towards Europe in the late 1980s, some of its leaders, Mr Smith among them, were greatly relieved. They had supported Britain's entry into the EC in the first place and campaigned for it to stay in the subsequent referendum. They were instinctively pro-European and had never felt comfortable with Labour's old distrust of the EC. But others were taken back by the lurch in policy and still have not been converted.

Yesterday the internal Labour rumbles against Maastricht continued, with Bryan Gould, shadow national heritage secretary, David Blunkett, shadow health secretary, and John Morris, shadow attorney general, all denouncing the treaty. Mr Smith is now in the awkward position of having a key party policy undermined by senior members of his own front bench.

So how would a referendum help? Mr Smith would be riding with popular opinion: a Gallup poll in yesterday's *Daily Telegraph* found 65 per cent of people supporting a referendum with only 16 per cent against. If Maastricht really means subsidiarity, what better way of proving it than to take the decision to the people? Mr Smith could argue that the general election gave no mandate to John Major over Europe since voters were not given the chance to back a party that opposed Maastricht. He could argue too that a whipped vote in the House of Commons would represent something less than a triumph for democracy. And under

Britain's admittedly nebulous constitutional rules, the Maastricht treaty, affecting as it does parliamentary sovereignty, would be a perfect subject for a referendum.

Even as an ardent European, a referendum could further Mr Smith's cause. Britain has shown such ambivalence about further European union that a widespread public debate followed by a vote could only clear the air. If the vote were yes, the country would feel far more certain about its relationship with Europe, as it did after the 1975 referendum. If it were no, the country's hostility to greater union would at least have been exposed before it was too late.

True, Labour is split over Europe. But Mr Smith could happily allow dissident members of his party to campaign for a no vote, just as anti-Common Market Conservatives had free rein in the 1975 referendum. Mr Major would be in a more difficult position. Several members of his government would feel distinctly uncomfortable campaigning publicly for a yes vote and might even be tempted to resign. Mr Major has staked his political reputation on the "triumph" he secured at Maastricht, so support for a no vote from members of his own party would seem far more disloyal than it would coming from Labour MPs.

Mr Smith could defend himself against criticism that a referendum would, as in France, turn into a party political beauty contest. Britain went through such a contest in April and has little stomach for a re-run. Besides, politics since the general election have been remarkable for their lack of argument, at least between the parties. And in the opinion polls, for what they are worth, neither party suffers from the low public esteem of the French Socialists.

Of course, France could vote no, in which case Maastricht will be dead anyway. But if the treaty survives the French ordeal, British attitudes to it will be no less confused. Mr Smith could demand a referendum to resolve the impasse. A great political opportunity is waiting to be grasped.

## TRUMAN, A FALSE MODEL

The late Harry S. Truman is currently the most fashionable politician in all America. Both President George Bush and Governor Bill Clinton repeatedly invoke his memory in their campaigns. Mr Bush looks in hope to Truman's fight-back during the 1948 presidential campaign when the Democrat president furiously attacked the then Republican controlled Congress and won against all expectations. To wrap himself in Truman's mantle, Mr Clinton this week visited Truman's birthplace, Independence, Missouri, for what used to be the traditional start of the presidential campaign on Labor Day.

Politicians always want to bask in the glow of great figures from the past. It does not matter precisely what the figure did, or even what party he belonged to. What matters is that his political career is long over and that he is now regarded as a Great Man. Normally, it takes at least 20 to 25 years for a political leader to pass from immediate controversy, through an intermediate stage of obscurity after death, to the status of an icon.

In Britain, 19th-century politicians liked to associate themselves with Pitt as an exemplar of all that the public looked for in their leaders. In the last two decades, Winston Churchill and Clement Attlee have attained this status. In America, Washington and Lincoln became pillars of the nation within a few years of their deaths, while Democrats now appropriate former Republican presidents like Theodore Roosevelt and Eisenhower, just as Republicans invoke former Democrat presidents such as Franklin Roosevelt or John Kennedy.

All this, of course, is historical nonsense. It ignores the bitter controversies which surrounded these leaders in their lifetimes. Republicans now lauding Franklin Roosevelt forget that their fathers and grandfathers loathed him as a destroyer of free

enterprise in America. Similarly, Tory MPs who now talk of Attlee as if he was a saintly figure above politics, forget that their fathers reviled him as a partisan socialist. It is odd how often revulsion is followed by respect.

Harry Truman is an odd choice for Mr Bush to pick as an inspiration, especially since in 1948 he voted for Thomas Dewey, the Republican candidate. President Truman was as partisan a Democrat as there ever was. During the 1948 campaign, he attacked "profiteers and the privileged class", declaring: "Our primary concern is for the little fellow. We think the big boys have always done very well. It is the business of government to see that the little fellow gets a square deal." That is hardly Mr Bush's record.

The Truman style, and his electoral success, are more comfortable parallels. Mr Bush's interest was sparked by a 1948 White House memorandum and by David McCullough's new best-selling biography of Truman, especially the parts about his "Give 'em hell Harry" barnstorming campaign. But Mr Bush, the ultimate Washington insider, is an unconvincing populist protesting against Congress. The real lesson of the Truman campaign is the need for a candidate to have a coherent and well-argued programme to show why he should be given a further term in office. Mr Bush has yet to do that.

Politicians would do well not to claim the mantles of their predecessors. Sometimes departed spirits can kick back via their surviving relatives. Margaret Truman Daniel, the former president's daughter, has been popping up on American television to ridicule Mr Bush. Adapting Lloyd Bentsen's famous put-down of Dan Quayle four years ago, she told the president: "I knew Harry Truman. George Bush, you're not Harry Truman!"

## ROYAL LIBERATION

The embarrassment of the royal family at the continual washing of its dirty linen in public deserves some relief. Royal may be but human they are too. Sections of the press have abandoned all restraint. If this was a bad summer for the public image of the royal family, it was an equally bad one for the reputation of the press. Whether or not the result is now a privacy law or a statutory tribunal enforcing a code of (better) behaviour, the traditional veil of deference and reserve which in the past gave royalty some privacy has been crudely torn aside.

The royal family's interest now lies in extricating itself from the public domain as fast as possible. Certain members of the family, notably the sovereign and the immediate heir, can never expect the privacy of a commoner, any more than can a president or prime minister. Other members of the family must be allowed to become as near to private citizens as ingenuity can bring about. Most should have no special public duties, therefore no call on public funds for a living but also no answerability to the public for their conduct. They can be privatised.

Royal marriages should no longer be subject to special laws; royal individuals should have the same rights to a private family life as those enjoyed by all other subjects. At present the law denies that equality and puts royal marriages — and hence its family life — squarely in the public domain. The Royal Marriages Act of 1772 opens with a ringing declaration that would seem to justify a recent tabloid front page, that "marriages in the royal family are of the highest importance to the state". This absurd act is no dead letter, nor are other statutes which govern royal marriages such as the 1701 Act of Settlement.

The Princess Royal is believed to be eager to remarry after her recent divorce from Captain Mark Phillips. She cannot lawfully do so in England, even with her mother's consent to a second marriage which the 1772 act obliges her to obtain. Royalty is not allowed to marry in a civil register office in England, due to an oversight in drafting the civil marriage legislation. They cannot remarry in the Church of England as the Archbishop of Canterbury is barred by a 1957 act of convocation from issuing an ecclesiastical licence in such a case. They could, however, marry in a Scottish register office or in the Church of Scotland.

The need for the sovereign's consent is an unwarranted imposition on both sides. By giving the Queen the duty of vetting all royal spouses, the act seems to give her a share of the blame for any mistakes. And when divorced royalty wishes to remarry and her permission is required a second time, as supreme governor of the Church of England she is caught between her ecclesiastical and her secular duty. She is known to regard this as more than a technical difficulty.

The Act of Settlement has not stopped junior members of the royal family marrying Roman Catholics; they merely forfeit a distant claim to a place in the succession. The act is objectionable largely as a symbol of sanctity — and hence parliamentary and hence public — involvement in deciding who and how royalty may marry and divorce. It reinforces the message of the 1772 act's preamble, that such affairs are "of the highest importance to the state".

They are not. The act should be repealed and all other public meddling in royal marriages should stop. For its own sake, the royal family needs the freedom to be private.

## Urgent need for reform of ERM

From Professor Lord Desai

Sir, What we are witnessing in the money markets is an exchange-rate war across the Atlantic reminiscent of the tariff wars of the 1930s. The desire of the US to revive the economy has led to its aggressive interest-rate policy which has put the dollar into a free fall. The reluctance of the Bundesbank to offer lower interest rates in return has led to the fraught situation where the governments of Germany, Italy, France, Sweden, Norway and the UK find themselves under pressure for one reason or another connected with the ERM (exchange-rate mechanism).

It is urgent that a comprehensive reform of the ERM be carried out whether or not the Maastricht treaty is ratified. After a decade of stability, the ERM has proved incapable of coping with the twin shocks of German reunification and the uncertainty over the Maastricht treaty.

It is no longer possible to pretend that the ERM is a symmetric collection of currencies all in a defined relation with each other. The asymmetric position of the Deutschmark has to be acknowledged and the institution of a fund of last resort provided for if we are to recover the stability which ERM promised.

As a first step towards such reform and as well as to ease the exchange-rate war the members of the ERM should simultaneously go into a flexible mode pending the ratification of the Maastricht treaty or its replacement by a new treaty which can give substance to further progress towards European monetary union.

This will create a situation in which speculators are no longer enjoying a one-sided bet and credit which should be used for investment is not frittered away to maintain what has now become an unrealistic set of exchange-rate parities.

The IMF meeting next week provides the perfect occasion for putting this policy into effect. The fact that it starts the day after the French referendum makes it the last chance we have of restoring order in the currency markets.

Yours etc.,  
MEGHAN DESAI,  
Development Studies Institute,  
The London School of Economics  
and Political Science,  
Houghton Street, WC2E,  
September 11.

Weekend Money letters, page 24

## Lies, damned lies...

From Mr Rufus Palamoutain

Sir, Dr Cohen's letter (September 10), as published, was obviously wrong" in its description of how first-class batting averages are calculated. The numerator is total runs scored, the denominator is number of times out (as opposed to not-out). His suggestion that the denominator should become number of innings is a step in the right direction, but too big a step.

I suggest that the batsman is given some credit for not being out and that this should be reflected in his average by including in the numerator only a proportion of those runs scored when he is not-out. The proportion would be found by dividing the number of not-outs by the total number of innings. The denominator for calculating the average would remain number of times out.

I have much sympathy with Dr Cohen's suggestion for the FTSE 100 index, but would make the further modification to all such indices that they should be adjusted for inflation. We would then get real "lows", although we would be less likely to get real "highs".

Yours faithfully,  
RUFUS PALAMOUNTAIN,  
Hamford Parva, Blandford, Dorset,  
September 10.

\* We apologise to Dr Cohen and to readers for the error in his letter, which was the result of a misprint.

## Book choice

From Mrs G. A. L. M. Hunt

Sir, I imagine that your literary editor will soon be compiling suggestions for our Christmas reading. Would it be possible for him to provide a list of "politically correct" authors and publishers? I can then avoid them when shopping for my four-year-old granddaughter.

Yours faithfully,  
GILL HUNT,  
Duddie Farmhouse, Bockhampton,  
Dorchester, Dorset,  
September 8.

## Booker prize

From Mr Rajnikant J. Mehta

Sir, Whatever the differences between the contenders for the Booker Prize this year (report, September 10), one thing is common — each of their books is priced at £14.99. I wonder how they managed that?

Yours truly,  
RAJNIKANT J. MEHTA,  
18 Leigh Court, Byron Hill Road,  
Harrow on the Hill, Middlesex.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

## Harmonising the time in Europe

From Sir John Leahy

Sir, I support the suggestion in your editorial (September 5), entitled "Harmony in time", that Britain should adopt Central European Time, suitably renamed, as our standard time. It is not a matter of harmonisation for its own sake. I would hazard a guess that for most of us the advantages would outweigh the disadvantages. Alas, on present form we are unlikely to be able to put the issue to the test of a referendum.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN LEAHY  
(Chairman, Franco-British Council,  
British Section),  
Knightsbridge House,  
197 Knightsbridge, SW7,  
September 6.

From Mr Oliver Gillie

Sir, Your report (September 5) that the EC Commission is to press (or rather force) the UK to alter the end of summer time to coincide with the changeover in the rest of Europe could hardly be more depressing.

First, it is the kind of pointless interference that would give the Commission a bad name if it did not already have one. Secondly, it is a move in the wrong direction.

During the summer we suffer from an excess of light in the early morning and a shortage in the evening. Our present system is eccentric in that the time changes in spring and autumn are not symmetrical, but if we are simply to tinker it would be better to change the clocks earlier in the spring. (If the international transport industries are unable to cope with a few time changes they don't deserve to survive.)

But most importantly the Commission is missing the opportunity to force an obvious change that successive governments have ducked in the most cowardly manner, that is for the UK to move to European time throughout the year.

Surely the only sensible argument for European integration is that we

have made such a mess of running our own affairs that anything else would be better.

Yours faithfully,  
OLIVER GILLIE,  
126 Court Lane, Dulwich, SE21.

From Mr John Howard

Sir, If Britain is forced to change the clocks at the end of September instead of October the darker afternoons will lead to about 100 deaths and serious injuries on the roads over and above the 5,500 or so that can be expected in that month.

We must not agree to a date change without a time change too or we will face more death and injury on our roads.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN HOWARD  
(Director of Safety),  
The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents,  
Cannon House, The Priory,  
Queensway, Birmingham 4.

From Mr Alan F. Bridgen

Sir, Your editorial makes the point that GMT has to go and Central European Time has to come — but mourns the lack of any British connection.

Surely — since all Western Europe is to be thus harmonised — Central European Time is now a misnomer and in future should be called Western European Time. The acronym, of course, supplies the missing British connection.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN F. BRIDGEN,  
Casa Almares, Albardeira,  
Meda Praia, 8600 Lagos,  
Algarve, Portugal,  
September 7.

From Mr J. R. E. Sedgwick

Sir, Why not call it Hour Time?

Yours etc.,  
J. R. E. SEDGWICK,  
Farnham House, Whitbury,  
Nr Fordingbridge, Hampshire.

## Charities' obligations

From Mr Adrian Longley

Sir, It might reasonably be inferred from your third leader of September 3 ("Auntie's agony") that — in contrast to the governors of the BBC — a proper stance for charitable trustees is relaxation "on the sidelines".

With over 166,000 charities currently on the charity commissioners' register — and a new one being entered every 30 minutes of the working day — there are bound to be wide differences of experience and approach. Nevertheless, as the persons ultimately responsible for the control and management of their charity, such trustees relax at their peril.

In the words of "Effectiveness and the voluntary sector", published by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations in April 1990, "trustees must supervise the charity's operations and ensure that the strategic planning which guides those operations makes the best use of its actual and potential assets in meeting its defined aims".

These obligations are not always appreciated by trustees. As Sir Philip Woodfield pointed out in his 1987 "Report on the supervision of charities", "there are trustees who are lethargic and neglectful and often unaware that trusteeship confers obligations more definite than general benevolence".

The 1992 Charities Act goes some

way towards both defining and enlarging the powers of trustees and strengthening the invigilatory role of the charity commissioners. But what is also urgently required is a survey of the role and function of charity trustees, so that informed recommendations for their appointment and training may be made.

Yours faithfully,  
ADRIAN LONGLEY,  
7 Kersley Street, Battersea, SW11,  
September 5.

From the Chairman of the Leonard Cheshire Foundation

Sir, My own trustees, unpaid and often at great personal inconvenience, give on average at least one day every week to furthering the work of this foundation. They accept fiduciary responsibilities greater than those of a company director; they often take on managerial roles, public relations duties, fundraising tasks and even negotiations with local authorities. I am sure they are not unique.

Without the commitment of charitable trustees much of the work of our voluntary sector, recently estimated at £2 billion per annum to our national economy, would never materialise. Yours truly,  
GEOFFREY HOWLETT,  
Chairman,  
The Leonard Cheshire Foundation,  
26-29 Mansel Street, SW1,  
September 3.

## Stuck for a dance

From Miss S. Bonham-Carter

Sir, Before the second world war I accompanied Miss Violet Alford in the research for a book on Pyrenean festivals, staying with friends in Cabezón de la Sal. In the evenings we joined a youth group which came to dance the jota (an Aragonese dance, accompanied by castanets) in the large front hall, and on one occasion were asked to show them an English dance.

Miss Alford came up with "A-hunting we will go", a very simple longways dance accompanied by singing. So she taught it, and I sang, and it went down like a bomb.

In those days English dances as well as songs (jenners, August 31, September 5, 11) were taught at school, but that seems no longer to be so, alas, except for some ribbon maypole dancing, which is bogus as far as England is concerned. Scottish arts were lucky in being persecuted. It accounts for their survival.

Yours faithfully,  
S. BONHAM-CARTER,  
67 Lea Road,  
Sonning Common, Oxfordshire,  
September 11.

## Moore study centre

From the Director of the Tate Gallery

Sir, Your heading to Kate Alderson's report (September 10) of the proceedings of the public enquiry into the Henry Moore Foundation's plans for developments at the artist's home and studios in Much Hadham states that I join Mary Moore in opposing the foundation's proposals for a visitor and study centre. This is not the case.

The Tate's reservations are about only one aspect of the foundation's plans — the proposed construction of a reception centre and the modifications

## Executing a will

From Ms Gabrielle Dell

Sir, Tim Symonds's article in *Law Times* ("A fate worse than death", September 1) fails to emphasise that an executor named by the complexities of his task can use a solicitor specifically to do all the administrative work.

When people make a will the deciding factor in choosing executors is the belief that those chosen will not only fulfil their legal responsibilities, but more importantly that they will have, as a result of their relationship with the deceased, an intuitive knowledge of what the testator himself would have wished.

It is this personal touch that in many cases a solicitor cannot provide. What he, or she, can provide is the expertise to tie up all the loose ends, so that the legal requirements of the probate are met properly and quickly.

Yours sincerely,  
GABRIELLE DELL,  
Ross & Craig  
(Solicitors),  
Swift House,  
12a Upper Berkeley Street, W1,  
September 4.

of an existing gallery designed by Sir Leslie Martin to show the work of Moore. We do not oppose the study centre and we warmly applaud the foundation's decision to withdraw its application for a new sculpture gallery.

We have no view to express on the tragic dispute between the foundation and Mary Moore, beyond the fervent hope that matters will be settled promptly, so that the public can again concentrate on Henry Moore's art.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS SEROTA, Director,  
Tate Gallery,  
Millbank, SW1.

## Tunes of glory or notes of discord?

From Mr Michael D. Varcoe-Cocks

Sir, In the feature on Classic FM (Lift & Times, September 9), Richard Ingrams complains about being told that Tchaikovsky "had a tormented life". The problem with the shallow approach of the new station is that we will probably hear something similar to this every time a piece by Tchaikovsky is played.

I have noticed that, despite having had no formal musical training, I recognise what is playing each time I switch on Classic FM and usually guess correctly what piece of trivia the presenter is going to attach to it.

For aural wallpaper, we can turn to it, but to broaden our horizons and deepen our knowledge we still need a public-service station which will inform and educate, not just entertain: Radio 3 must complement, not compete with, Classic FM — which is, I suspect, really Radio 2's.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL VARCOE-COCKS,  
5 Brackenbury Road, W6.

From Mr Kieran Cooper

Sir, Is it not somewhat ironic that in order to answer the competition questions on Tchaikovsky posed on Classic FM this week and win 105 CDs, one needs only to listen to the scholarly introductions by Peter Franklin to Radio 3's Composer of the Week?

Yours faithfully,  
KIERAN COOPER,  
Crescent Lodge, Park Lane,  
Aldersburgh, Suffolk.

From Mr A. P. H. Browne

Sir, Richard Ingrams may not mourn "the passing of those precious, plummy-voiced BBC announcers who sometimes had difficulty knowing which side of the record to put on", but I do. I miss the joyous amateurism of the announcements as in "Well, we seem to have some time before the beginning of the concert, so...". or the unabashed "Well, that, of course, was not Scheherazade" after yet another miscuing. These "wrong" discs were never abated.

Certainly, the CD era denied us the pleasure of Bruckner at 45 rpm, but we still had the Radio 3 Silence. These silences were often of such duration that it was often difficult to work out whether the station had gone off the air.

A tweedy and knowledgeable amateurism: its passing is much regretted.

Yours faithfully,  
PAUL BROWNE,  
50 Cambridge Road,  
East Twickenham, Middlesex.

From Dr Elizabeth Stanley

Sir, Suddenly I feel free — released, unshackled, I am elated. Why? Classic FM. Reared on a healthy diet of classical music, but never in "bite-sized chunks", I now realise that for years I have been starving. My hectic life has all but laid the cupboard bare.

Now I have been given permission to snack, I am beginning to feel comfortably replete. But I am also encouraged to make time for the occasional and even more satisfying full meal.

Thank you Classic FM and hello again Radio 3.

Yours faithfully,  
ELIZABETH STANLEY,  
82 Harley Street, W1.

From Lieutenant Colonel C. H. Rayment

Sir, As an avid radio listener I congratulate Classic FM on a programme that deserves to succeed. I have today listened to it from 6.10am almost continuously until it closed at 11pm. Long may it continue.

Yours faithfully,  
C. H. RAYMENT,  
Briarswood House,  
Wareham, Dorset,  
September 8.

From Mrs Tracy-Jane Faulkner

Sir, The choice of music for the morning programmes on Classic FM is bland but acceptable for that time of day and the presenter amiable enough. The commercials do not intrude too much. But what will drive me back to the easy, pleasantly lackadaisical world of Radio 3 is the inability of the presenter to allow any pause between the end of the music and his urgent revelation about the piece we have just heard and that which is coming next.

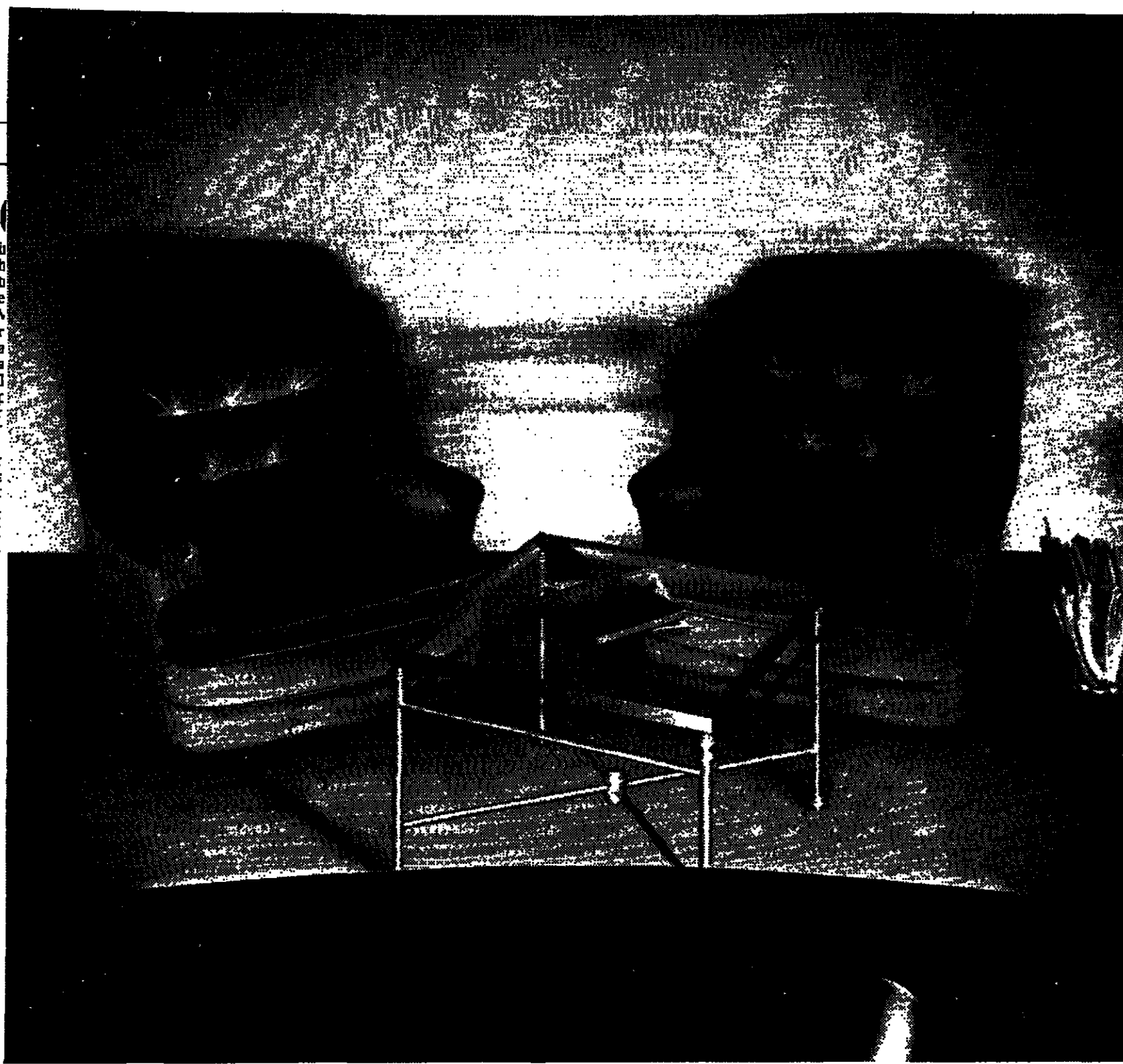
They really must allow the music to speak for itself and permit the listeners a momentary sigh of contentment at the end of each piece.

Yours faithfully,  
TRACEY-JANE FAULKNER,  
40 Malcolm Crescent,  
Hendon, NW4.

From Mr Michael Berkeley

Sir, In the course of the debate on the broadcasting of classical music, we should remember that it is only through the constant exploration of the "unfamiliar" that we discover the "familiar". The music of J. S. Bach, which we must all be relieved to hear played in Ingrams, in fact languished unplayed for decades until the passionate advocacy of Mendelssohn helped to rekindle the public's interest.

Yours sincerely,  
MICHAEL BERKELEY,  
Middle Pitts, Milebrook,  
Nr Kington, Powys.



# The chairs love your commercial. The table isn't so sure.

**T**HERE'S ONE PROBLEM with the theory that television advertising is highly intrusive: avoiding commercials is easy.

Nonetheless, we are assured that they reach a huge and attentive audience.

For support we are given figures based on a method of research which records the time at which viewers switch their sets on, change channels, and switch off.

A method which asks us to assume that when the commercials are on, there's someone watching.

Questionable when you are armed with the knowledge that demand for electricity and water rises and falls like a massed heartbeat with each commercial break.

It is safe enough to deduce that this is the result of people putting the kettle on, or visiting the loo. (Doesn't common sense tell us that viewers are far more likely to leave the room in a commercial break, than during their favourite programme?).

Indeed, a number of research studies carried out over the past thirty years have suggested that millions of people, whose attention you are paying for, are not watching when the commercials come on.

And now, a new and revealing report has confirmed this.

A research psychologist called Dr. Peter Collett videoed people watching commercials by putting a hidden camera into their television sets.

He saw (literally) that for 20% of the commercials no one was in the room. To put it bluntly, you are spending 20% of your budget communicating with tables and chairs. (If only they had high disposable incomes.)

The videotapes also revealed that advertising breaks were the cue to escape the commercials.

Some people left the room. Others used their remote-control 'zappers' to find out what was on the other channels. That's another 10% of the commercials missed.

That leaves 70% of the commercials with a potential audience.

But the tapes show people talking, reading, sleeping. Some, who evidently forgot they were being filmed, used the sofa for activities normally reserved for the bedroom.

Half of the time no one was watching the TV set.

These insights into domestic reality show that only a third of all commercials were blessed with the viewers' attention.

The fact is that television advertising is less than half as effective as you thought it was.

Or put another way, twice as expensive. An apposite moment to bring your attention to newspaper advertising.

You cannot read a newspaper whilst behaving as if it isn't there.

If you put your newspaper down to make a cup of tea, the ads will still be there when you come back.

You will have seen a series of famous newspaper advertisements, featured as part of this campaign. Reminders of the compelling and powerful nature of the written word.

And a timely incentive for agencies to think twice before herding advertisers towards television.

They might find it beyond even their powers of persuasion to convince you that talking to furniture is going to help you shift your product.

And rather easier to sell you on the idea of advertising in the newspapers.

The effectiveness of which, for the last three minutes, you have been busy proving.

If you'd like more information, please call 071-433 1500.

**PEOPLE  
READ  
NEWS-  
PAPERS**





*TSB Group have led  
the way in offering both banking  
and insurance services to its  
customers. In both activities we  
have just one objective.*



*To meet the needs of  
our customers with a consistently  
high level of service. A policy  
that sees TSB and Hill Samuel  
well armed for the future.*





● BUSINESS 17-20, 28, 29  
● WEEKEND MONEY 21-24  
● FOCUS 25-27

# BUSINESS TIMES

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12 1992

SPORT  
30-36

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL

## WEEKEND MONEY

### Profile

John Cahill, chairman of British Aerospace, is a man of contradictions. He says he loves words and communication, but hates small talk and is often happiest on his own. He has three daughters, has been happily married for 36 years and his sole sibling is female, yet he says he feels uncomfortable in the company of women. Page 19

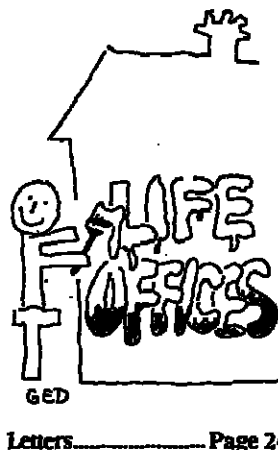


### Card deal

Credit card transactions overseas are not afforded the same legal protection that exists for domestic purchases. In the UK, card issuers are liable to repay any loss of more than £100. Page 23

### Savers' friend

In an experiment, National Savings is writing to selected investors advising them that matured certificates attract a lower rate of interest than those that have not yet matured. Page 23



### Wider role

Borrowers who feel they have been wrongly persuaded to take out a certain type of mortgage or unsecured bank or building society loan have little redress under present regulations. Jean Eaglesham, head of money policy at the Consumers' Association, says that recent problems with home income plans, where elderly people on fixed incomes were granted mortgages, suggest home loans should be brought within the scope of the Financial Services Act. Page 21



### Rates fear

The new tough line on mortgage indemnity cover adopted by insurers could mean higher interest rates. It will also prevent a number of lenders from servicing first-time buyers. Page 22

### Tumbling down

The property slump claimed more victims yesterday as Tarmac, the building materials group, announced that it is to close eight factories, four of them brick factories, at a cost of 300 jobs. Page 18



### Protectors

Four years after the Financial Services Act, investor protection is to be radically overhauled. Consumer bodies say that new proposals may still leave investors inadequately protected. Page 21

## Miners call for block on contracts

By PATRICIA TEHAN

BRITAIN'S miners have appealed to John Major, the prime minister, to block new coal contracts, which, they say, will do irreparable damage to their industry.

Roy Lynk, president and general secretary of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers, yesterday, asked Mr Major "to be fair to British miners" and to give them the opportunity to be the best in Europe. "We can do it without financial help," he said.

Mr Lynk urged Mr Major to back the UDM's calls for a European energy policy, based on European coal. He said British coal was already 50 per cent cheaper than European coal and blamed cheap imports from North and South America for depressing prices.

National Power and Power-Gen, the power generators, are set to sign the contracts next week. The government is believed to have approved the contracts, effective from March, for 40 million tonnes of coal for the first two years and 30 million from the third year, compared with 65 million this year.

The reduction is likely to mean the loss of between 35,000 and 45,000 jobs and the closure of 35 of Britain's 50 deep mines.

John Meads, general secretary of British Association of Colliery Management, criticised Britain's "dash for gas" and the likely inclusion of an official go-ahead for further investment in natural gas power stations in the coal agreement.

Some of Britain's big energy users have also expressed their dismay over the new contracts. They say gas is more expensive than coal.

### THE POUND

US dollar

1.9342 (-0.0438)

German mark

2.7881 (+0.0011)

Exchange index

91.5 (-0.6)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

### STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share

1729.9 (+22.5)

FT-SE 100

2370.9 (+30.3)

New York Dow Jones

3316.78 (+11.62)\*

Tokyo Nikkei Ave

18107.69 (-800.78)

### INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10%

3-month Interbank: 10 1/2% 10 1/4%

3-month Treasury Bill: 2.92-2.90%

30-year bonds: 5 1/2% 5 1/4%

### CURRENCIES

London: New York:

£ \$1.9342

£ DM2.7881

£ Sfr2.4701

£ FF4.4825

£ Yen226.80

£ Index: 91.5

ECU: 10.727030

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## Hopeful stock market rises 30 points

# Sterling fails to respond as dollar rallies

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE pound ended a third week of turmoil in the currency markets close to its absolute floor in the exchange-rate mechanism, despite the prime minister's forceful commitment to current parities and fresh confirmation that inflation is on a steady downward trend.

At the official 4pm London close, sterling was at DM2.7881, a fraction over a penny above its lowest permitted limit, having climbed comfortably above DM2.7900 during the morning as the dollar started to regain ground against the mark.

The strengthening dollar was the main feature of foreign exchange markets, awakening hopes that the US currency has overcome its record weakness and it set to climb strongly against the mark. Against the pound, it closed at \$1.9342 in London,

up more than four cents from the previous finish. This dragged down sterling's trade-weighted index 0.6 to 91.5.

The dollar's resurgence boosted the stock market, with the FT-SE 100 index closing 30.3 up, just below its best of the day at 2,370.9. Blue chips led the way higher, especially big dollar earners who become more competitive with a strong currency and benefit from translations back into sterling.

Despite the hope that the firmer dollar would reduce tensions between the ERM currencies, the Bundesbank, the Bank of Italy and the Belgian central bank were again forced to intervene heavily in defence of the lira, which remained pinned to its floor of 765.40 to the mark. Dealers estimated that the equivalent of £500 million was used to prop up the lira.

The dollar gained three pennings to DM1.4420 early

on, but eased back later. Its recovery was aided by rising continuing in eastern Germany and disappointing German economic trade data.

Having failed to lift the pound with a £7.3 billion package of borrowing to boost sterling's defences, and repeated pledges on policy, including John Major's firm commitment to the ERM on Thursday, the government is turning to global cooperation to restore currency calm.

Britain is trying to organise more international efforts to "bring currencies closer in line with economic fundamentals", an official phrase for seeking world support for the pound, lira and other currencies beleaguered in the ERM because mark strength.

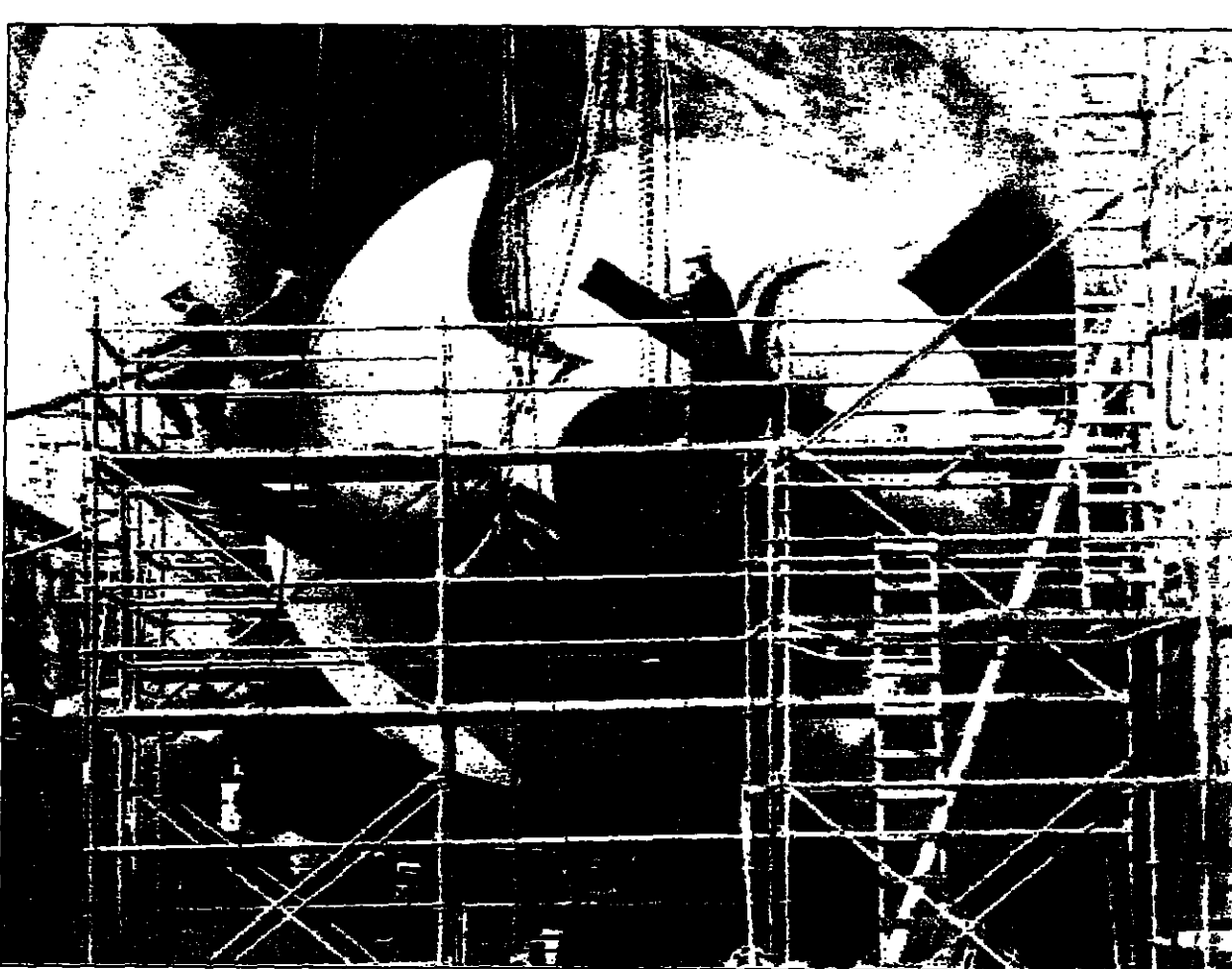
The British campaign will reach its critical point in Washington next weekend, when finance ministers and central bankers from the G7 industrialised countries confer at the annual meeting of the World Bank and IMF.

The meeting, which takes place a day before the French referendum on Maastricht, will concentrate on concrete steps that could be taken to move currencies closer to their fundamentals and to deal with the problem of weak economic activity around the world. Officials said Mr Lamont had secured the agreement of other finance ministers to focus next Saturday's G7 meeting more closely than usual on a narrow agenda, limited to key policy issues, instead of drafting long communiques for public consumption.

Although officials said there were no plans for any further meetings of finance ministers after the results of the referendum are known on Sunday night, contingency plans to underpin the financial markets in the event of a no vote are being high in the thinking of finance ministries and central banks.

Officials said there were four key issues that Britain would be bringing to the G7's attention: the disappointingly weak levels of activity in most leading economies; the inappropriate mix between fiscal and monetary policies in some countries, which is widely seen as the main cause of high German and European interest rates; the outlook for world interest rates; and the need for exchange rates to reflect economic fundamentals.

Stock markets, page 20



Turn of the screw: workers at the Blohm and Voss shipyard in Hamburg check the port side propeller of the QE2, the Cunard liner that suffered damage to its keel off the north east coast of America five weeks ago. The cost of the repairs and the resulting loss of revenues is expected to reach £30 million

## Cookie war bites into UB

By MICHAEL TATE  
CITY EDITOR

A PRICE war in the American "cookie and cracker" markets sent profits of Keebler, the US arm of United Biscuits, crashing by 59 per cent in the first half of 1992, leaving UB group profits £14.4 million lower at £70 million.

Keebler's depressing performance reflected its attempts to combat fierce price-cutting by much of the competition, and a recession-driven preference by consumers for cheaper products. Sales held steady, both in volume and value, at £509 million, but margins more than halved from 5.6 to 2.4 per cent, and profits crumbled from £29.7 million to £12.1 million.

Robert Clarke, UB chairman, said Keebler was responding by cutting costs, increasing marketing spending and moving into the US own-label market.

In the UK, McVitie's, with just under 46 per cent of the biscuit market, KP Foods, Ross Young's and Terry's all maintained or improved profits, while in continental Europe, sales improved by 15 per cent and trading profits rose by 16 per cent.

Earnings per share, fully diluted, are 2p lower at 9.6p a share, but the interim dividend is being held at 5.5p a share.

Tempus, page 18

## National Savings receipts slide

By LIZ DOLAN

NATIONAL Savings suffered a huge drop in receipts during August after the government bowed to demands by the building societies to cut the interest rate on its new First Option bond.

Net receipts plunged to £126 million, roughly a quarter of July's £481 million. The July figure, the highest for eight years, were inflated by the near-£300 million attracted into the First Option bond.

National Savings said the lower figure for August was

also due to the withdrawal from sale of three products — the 37th issue certificate, children's bonus bonds issue B and capital bonds series D. The replacement issues were not available until August 26.

Most other products also suffered rate cuts. These were prompted by an unexpectedly high level of receipts in the first four months of the financial year, National Savings said. Although the Chancellor of the Exchequer had made it clear in the Budget that he

wanted National Savings to raise more money, a spokeswoman claimed: "He had not been thinking in terms of £2.2 billion in just four months." She added that the enormous popularity of the bonds indicated that interest rates were over-generous.

National Savings contributed £259 million to government funding last month, including accrued interest of £133 million. The highest net addition was contributed by First Option at £144 million.

## Gambling on old man river to pay up

By NEIL BENNETT  
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

A GUERNSEY businessman and a City stockbroker have joined forces to sue the state of Mississippi and force it to honour bonds on which it defaulted 151 years ago.

The European Association of Mississippi Bondholders started legal action against the state governor and four senior officials last week to force them to amend the state constitution and repay up to \$60 million in debt and unpaid interest.

The action is the latest in the longest-running sovereign debt crisis in history, and the association is fighting where investors such as William Wordsworth and the Prince of Monaco tried and failed.

The bonds were issued by the Mississippi Union Bank and the Planters Bank of Mississippi in the 1830s,



guaranteed by the state, and mainly sold to British investors. The banks funded the local railroad but soon went bust leaving the state with an embarrassing burden. After several promises to the contrary, the state defaulted on the bonds in 1841. To make matters final, the state wrote into section 258 of its constitution in 1875 that the bonds would never be repaid.

Among the original victims of the crash were Wordsworth and his family. In 1843, he wrote to a member of the Mississippi legislature condemning the state's "shameless dishonesty" and calling for rapid repayment. Even then he noted sadly that two holders, his uncle and aunt, "may both be in their graves before it comes".

How right he was. Almost a century later the Prince of Monaco took up the cause in the supreme court, only to be defeated on a technicality. Since then, Mississippi officials have always said their hands are tied by their constitution. David Barry, a Guernsey businessman, says there is a good chance he can overturn the offending clause in the constitution which he claims is immoral and illegal. He is supported in the action by Paul Seabrook, a stockbroker from Daiwa Europe.

The original bonds were only worth \$7 million, and carried interest rates of up to 6 per cent. The accrued interest however is now worth up to ten times the face value.

Investors who fancy a punt can even join this quixotic venture. The bonds are prized collectors items and a \$1,000 bond should cost about £130. If the action succeeds, the returns will be phenomenal. If not, holders will still own a piece of history.

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# Construction slump forces Tarmac to close plants

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE chill wind of recession blowing through the building materials industry produced further victims yesterday as Tarmac announced the closure of eight plants, at a cost of 300 jobs, and Evered Bardon, Britain's biggest quarrying group, published a depressing set of figures.

Tarmac is closing four brick factories with a total capacity of 100 million bricks, at Bothwell Park, in Scotland, Campbell, in Derbyshire, Kibblesworth, in the North East, and Severn Valley, in Avon. A further four concrete block plants, at Nuneston, West Midlands, Morrinton, in Scotland, and Fleet and

Bracknell, in the South, will also close. Thirty seven per cent of brick-making capacity will therefore close, while concrete block production will reduce from 16 million sq m to a little over 13 million.

The swinging rationalisation is a response to severe overcapacity in the building materials industry. Neville Simms, appointed chief executive earlier this year, said: "We do not expect to lose market share and look to our competitors to follow this strong lead in reducing industry capacity in line with both current and foreseeable market demand."

Tarmac, along with most other industry commentators, does not expect construction markets to improve in the short term, and only slowly thereafter.

Mark Gibbon, construction analyst at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said: "It's the most significant move Neville Simms has made so far. It has come to grips with what we believe is the truth of the industry. There is whopping overcapacity to be addressed."

The company took an £18 million provision at the end of 1991 to cover restructuring and expects this sum to cover the latest closures.

Tarmac has been hit as badly as any of the big builders because of heavy debts run up in the boom years. Interim figures are due on September 22, and the stock market is expecting a £15 million loss, in contrast to an £18.2 million profit last time.

Also labouring under a heavy debt burden is Evered Bardon. Interest payments of £8.8 million left pre-tax profits at £4.6 million (£10.3 million) for the six months to end-June. The dividend is cut from 1.935p to 0.8p.

Peter Tom, the chief executive, said the group was "reasonably confident" about volumes for the rest of the year in Britain, given the strong bias in profits towards the second half of the year. Evered is also hopeful of a gradual upturn in America.

Tempus, this page

## Co-op Bank rebounds to £3.5m

BY NEIL BENNETT  
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

A RADICAL cost-cutting programme and rising income helped the Co-operative Bank bounce back into profits in the first half of the year despite a rise in bad debt provisions.

The bank made pre-tax profit of £3.5 million, against £700,000 last time. In the second half last year, it dropped to losses of £6.7 million because of heavy bad debts and reorganisation costs.

John Marper, finance director, said bad debt provisions were about £20 million, 20 per cent higher than a year ago but £5 million lower than the second half of last year, due to tighter credit vetting.

The bank boosted operating profit 12 per cent to almost £24 million despite a fall in retail lending, which was £1.5 billion at the end of the half. The boost came from increased commissions from the bank's insurance and advisory services and its Visa card services.

Mr Marper said that the bank had held the rise in costs to within inflation.



"Worst depression for some decades": Sir Lewis Robertson, chairman of Lilley

## Lilley moves to bolster shares

BY OUR CITY STAFF

LILLEY, the Glasgow construction company, rushed out results yesterday, five weeks early, after its share price fell to 3p overnight. The shares dipped from 20p to 10p several weeks ago. Bob Rankin, chief executive, said: "This seemed the best way to reassure our supporters."

A fall in interest charges in the half year to end-June helped raise pre-tax profits

from £1.7 million to £2 million. But the 1p half-year dividend has been passed and the board says the dividend policy will be considered after the full-year results are studied. Passing the dividend saves £2 million, which left Lilley with a retained profit of £1.6m million against a loss of almost £600,000. The shares rose 12p to 8½p.

Sir Lewis Robertson, the

chairman, said: "From the standpoint of the construction sector, the present depression is the worst for some decades. Lilley suffers as others do from the result of this."

Contracting sales fell 5 per cent to £117 million and operating profits dipped 45 per cent to £2.23 million. Property development and housebuilding cut losses to £400,000 from £2.7 million.

## JIB gives warning of full-year slippage

BY JONATHAN PRYNN  
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

A COMBINATION of weak market conditions and adverse interest and exchange rate movements has undermined the second-half prospects for JIB Group, the insurance broker that came to the market through an offer for sale last November.

Shares in JIB slipped 2p to 117p, compared with a flotation price of 155p, on a statement from the company that its full-year earnings "will fall short of earlier hopes".

JIB was reporting interim pre-tax profits for the half year to end-June of £10.7 million (£11.1 million). The figures are not directly comparable because of the restructuring of the company prior to flotation. JIB is paying a debut interim dividend of 2.5p and has forecast an unchanged 5p final.

Brokerage revenues were slightly up, but lower interest rates and the collapse of the dollar reduced income by £2.5 million, leaving first half turnover up only £1.4 million at £85.2 million.

Rodney Leach, the chairman, said there had been no improvement in premium rates in the US, the group's biggest market, where the results were "disappointing". In the London market, reinsurance earnings were down but international wholesale performed ahead of 1991. Operations in the Pacific basin continued to grow strongly.

On the prospects for the future, Mr Leach said: "The foundations have been laid for renewed growth as soon as markets recover."

## Speyhawk bank talks to continue

BY JON ASHWORTH

SPEYHAWK, the debt-laden property company, made a trading loss of nearly £10 million in the six months to end-March, and is likely to remain in talks with its bankers until Christmas.

The company has been struggling since April to renegotiate debts of £300 million with a consortium of 46 banks led by Barclays and Citibank. Trevor Osborne, chairman and founder, said the end was in sight but admitted it had been a difficult year. He said: "It is tough and it has taken a long time, but we will get there. I'm determined that Speyhawk will be a survivor."

Trading losses of £9.54 million (£10.6 million), represented provisions for interest on loans. Turnover collapsed from £42.5 million to £10.7 million because of poor lettings and weak sales. There is again no dividend.

The shares fell 1p to 5½p. The letting market, particularly for office space in London, remains oversupplied.

Speyhawk made a pre-tax loss of £216.8 million for the year to end-September, 1991.

## Nestlé grows but warns against weaker dollar

NESTLÉ, the world's largest food group, reported a 16.8 per cent rise in net profits to SFr1.18 billion (£475 million) for the first six months of the year, but warned that profits developments would depend on the dollar not falling further. Business is expected to be satisfactory this year with sales growth possibly rising in the second half from the first half's 13.3 per cent to SFr26.29 billion.

"If, however, the influence of the currency evolution should continue to be as negative as it has been since the end of June and during the months of July and August, this... might slow the profit growth rate reported for the first semester for the whole of the year," Nestlé said. The dollar had traded at an average SFr1.47 from January to June 1992, but at SFr1.43 in June alone. In June last year, the average rate was SFr1.53. The evolution of exchange rates contributed to the sales increase in the first half because the weakness of the dollar only became apparent at the end of the period.

## Macfish sale agreed

ASSOCIATED Fisheries and Geest have agreed to sell Macfish, their 50-50 joint venture in seafood processing, to Denmark's Foodmark for £9.16 million. Macfish, based in Fraserburgh, Grampian, was formed in February 1990, when AF merged its DA Macrae subsidiary with the Macfisheries business of Geest. In 1991, Macfish incurred a pre-tax loss of £801,000 on turnover of £46.5 million. Associated said cash realised from this disposal would be used to reduce short-term borrowings and to finance future investments.

## Berkertex unit sold

FIFTH Avenue, a London retailer owned by Berkertex, the dress and bridalwear group that went into receivership last Friday, has been sold to management, saving 30 jobs. The purchaser is a company set up by Paul Fabian and Brian Worth, part of the senior management of Fifth Avenue, which supplies the fashion, mail order trade. Berkertex went into receivership after a long period of falling sales. Christopher Morris and Roger Powdrill, of Touche Ross, joint administrative receivers, hope to sell other Berkertex businesses as going concerns. Diary, page 12

## EIT seeks £1.9m

EIT Group, the information technology company, is raising £1.9 million through a rights issue. The company proposes to buy Second City Systems, one of the largest Apple computer dealers in Britain, with outlets in Birmingham, Manchester and Swindon. EIT is offering two new shares for every five held, at 17p each. Existing shares were unchanged at 20p. The company will also issue seven warrants for every ten rights issue shares taken up—entitling investors to subscribe for one new ordinary share at 17p in 1993. Full subscription would raise an additional £1.5 million.

## Morgan Stanley ahead

MORGAN Stanley Group, the American merchant bank, said second-quarter net income rose on a strong market for its underwriting services. The company earned \$119.0 million, or \$1.36 a share, on net revenues of \$764.1 million in the quarter to end-July, compared with \$100.9 million, or \$1.26 a share, on \$669.1 million in the 1991 second quarter. Underwriting was up, based on growth in its high-yield debt, mortgage-backed debt and equity underwriting services. But combined revenues in trading, commissions and net interest declined on fixed income and commodities.

## Arcadian cuts losses

THERE is still no dividend from Arcadian International, the leisure property management group, but losses were sharply reduced to £853,000 (£3.68 million) in the year ended last April and the balance sheet has been strengthened. Sir Peter Parker, the chairman, says the results reflect the continuing strong progress made in the group's European leisure operations. Arcadian is project manager of two expanding French hotels, the El Zaudin golf and country club development in Spain and the Mentmore gold complex in Buckinghamshire where it has a 9 per cent equity stake.

## Swallowfield pays same

SWALLOWFIELD, the manufacturer of personal care products, said sales and profits were running below expectations because of depressed consumer demand. The interim dividend is maintained at 2.2p despite a decline in profits from £804,000 before tax to £421,000 in the half year to mid-June, reducing earnings from 4.6p a share to 2.2p. Turnover fell from £9.5 million to £8.6 million and operating profits from £1.06 million to £677,000. Interest charges were £256,000 (£253,000). Last month Parbel, a Belgian manufacturer of cosmetics, was bought for £925,000.

### THE SUNDAY TIMES

After falling victim to the worst fraud in British business history, many Maxwell pensioners and creditors fear they are now the centre of another thriving but threatening industry. Lawyers in Britain and America are coining fees out of the Maxwell corpse...

Business Focus—The Sunday Times Tomorrow

## OFT chief pledges to put consumers first

BY PATRICIA TEHAN

SIR Bryan Carsberg, director general of the Office of Fair Trading, has outlined his determination to put consumers' interests first, and called on the monopolies and mergers commission to recommend remedies such as price capping or divestment where needed to ensure competition.

In his first public speech since moving from his job as telecommunications regulator in July, Sir Bryan said he was concerned about the inertia surrounding the improvement of competition and threatened

"a more radical approach" in future. As director general of OfTel, Sir Bryan was renowned for his tough approach to introducing competition to BT. He said: "Lessons from the successes of the regulation of privatised utilities may be relevant for the more general kinds of monopoly references investigated by the MMC."

He gave a warning that the MMC investigation of British Gas, which will look at the supply, transportation and storage of gas "is likely to

consider the possible desirability of divestment."

Calling for a rethink on licensing laws, he said: "The ownership of pubs by brewers might be viewed with less concern if licensing laws allowed more open entry."

He said a decision by a professional body to raise the pass level in examinations because enough suppliers existed "should be questioned if membership of the association is a requirement for effective operation".

Sir Bryan told the Interna-

tional Anti-Trust Conference at Robinson College, Cambridge, that a duopoly, competition between two firms, "can be a particularly unsatisfactory arrangement" because uniform behaviour tended to emerge, as with a monopoly, and there was, therefore, no competition.

He expressed concern about firms that use their position to exclude others from entering a market. Such a concern recently led him to refer the distribution of newspapers to the MMC.

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## US eats into United Biscuits' margins

THE real disappointment with United Biscuits' first-half performance is that a group so respected for its management qualities can have allowed the American Keebler business to fade quite so badly when it was able to cope so admirably with the recession in the UK.

UB's explanation is that it reflects the difference between being a strong number one in the market, as it is in the UK, and a long way back as number two, like Keebler.

On both sides of the Atlantic, sales stood still. The difference was that in Britain the group was able to improve profit margins, without losing business to its rivals, while in America they more than halved, as management fought to hold on to market share.

Keebler's margins fell from 5.6 to 2.4 per cent, with prices unable to match cost inflation, and more funds were pumped into product promotion.

Rarely can the group have more usefully done with a strong performance from McVitie's and KP, and never can conditions have left them worse-placed to respond, while the promising continental activities are as yet too small to make a



Profits tumble: Peter Tom, left, and William McGrath, of Evered Bardon

significant impact. Down have come full-year profit projections, to £160 million pre-tax (£211 million). Some capital expenditure is being sacrificed to ensure that the current cash outflow is checked next year, although interest cover is healthy enough at just under six times. The dividend looks safe enough, too.

But the absence of short-term growth prospects again leaves UB vulnerable to bid

speculation, which was partly responsible for yesterday's share price rally. Without a bid, 259p, or about 12 times earnings, looks high enough for now.

### Evered Bardon

THE root of Evered Bardon's problems lies more in the rapid over-expansion by one of the parties to the original merger early last year than in the parlous state

of the industry. It is a sign of the times, and of the company's financial difficulties, that the previous finance director, whose strength was acquisitions, has been replaced by William McGrath, a flak-catching former merchant banker.

Evered has net borrowings of £236 million, against a net asset value in the last accounts of £366 million. Interest cover swung from 2.1 times in the first half of 1991

to just 1.5 times for the first six months of 1992. Pre-tax profits tumbled from £10.3 million to only £4.6 million.

Shareholders, who have seen the price slump from 87p in May to 27p yesterday, will have to rely on assurances that the sale of some American businesses, can be achieved by the year end. The group should then be cash-positive on the operating level, Peter Tom, chief executive, forecasts.

Evered's core businesses in Britain and America have performed tolerably, even though volumes are down as much as 30 per cent in some areas.

But cash will still be flowing out in the form of dividends by the year end. Evered has grasped the familiar nettle for building materials firms and slashed the half-year dividend, and a similar outcome for the full year puts the shares on a prospective yield of 11.4.

Mark Gibbon, at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, after a raft of downgradings for builders this week, expects Evered to make £10 million pre-tax this year, putting the shares on a forward multiple of 24.5. About all that is supporting them is the continuing hope, however faint, of a predatory bid. Best avoided.



## BUSINESS PROFILE: John Cahill

## Tough-talking loner with no fear of flying

Carol Leonard finds the chairman of British Aerospace identifying with the high-flyers at Farnborough Air Show

As John Cahill, for the past four months chairman of British Aerospace, Britain's biggest exporter of manufactured goods, watched in fascination as the jets circled high above his head at Farnborough Air Show this week, he identified far more closely with the pilots performing those gravity-defying feats than they could ever have realised.

Cahill, head tilted back would have been grateful that engine noise had temporarily prohibited all conversation. A self-confessed loner, who finds small talk difficult — "I loathe cocktail parties and my idea of a complete turn-off would be to go to a night club" — he is, he says, often happier in solitude than in quasi-social settings.

On this occasion in particular he, more than most other observers, would have appreciated the painstaking preparations each pilot had made, the split-second accuracy required and the pressure they were under to perform, now that their moment of potential glory had come and all eyes were on them. One erroneous move and not only would their own lives be endangered, but so too would millions of pounds of orders for the products they displayed.

A reduction in life expectancy might not be one of the issues Cahill — pronounced K-hill — has to face but, in all other respects, the analogy with his own job would have been clear. It is almost exactly a year since British Aerospace's £437 million crisis issue flopped and Cahill's predecessor, Professor Sir Roland Smith was ousted.

Profits fell 60 per cent, to £150 million last year, redundancies have reduced employee numbers from 135,000 to 116,000, but the recession, coupled with the on-going effect of the sterling crisis — British Aerospace's four main activities are, after all, Rover cars, Arlington, the property developer, Royal Ordnance and aerospace — mean that a further 20,000 job losses are scheduled and profits this year are expected to remain flat.

Cahill, 62, invested £180,000 of his own money in 50,000 British Aerospace shares when he began his new job and has since seen the value of that investment halve. His £450,000 salary aside, he seems remarkably unperturbed by the loss. He accepts that he must have one of the least enviable and most challenging jobs in British industry, but there appears to be no trace of doubt in his mind that he will achieve his objectives.

"I took a five-year assignment here and I have an agenda that I believe I can do in five years," he says. "In fact I don't think it will actually take five years. The change will be evolutionary rather than revolutionary but 1993 will prove to be a new beginning for this company." One of those objectives, he says, is to transform British Aerospace from an income stock yielding 17 per cent to a growth stock. "Sales are fine. We could even afford to shed a bit of sales, but we have got to get the company cash positive, get costs down, and inevitably that means more jobs will go. We're not talking about blue collar jobs, but middle management, because we are re-shaping the company in a different configuration. Each business is now writing a business plan and that means we can identify precisely where people are."

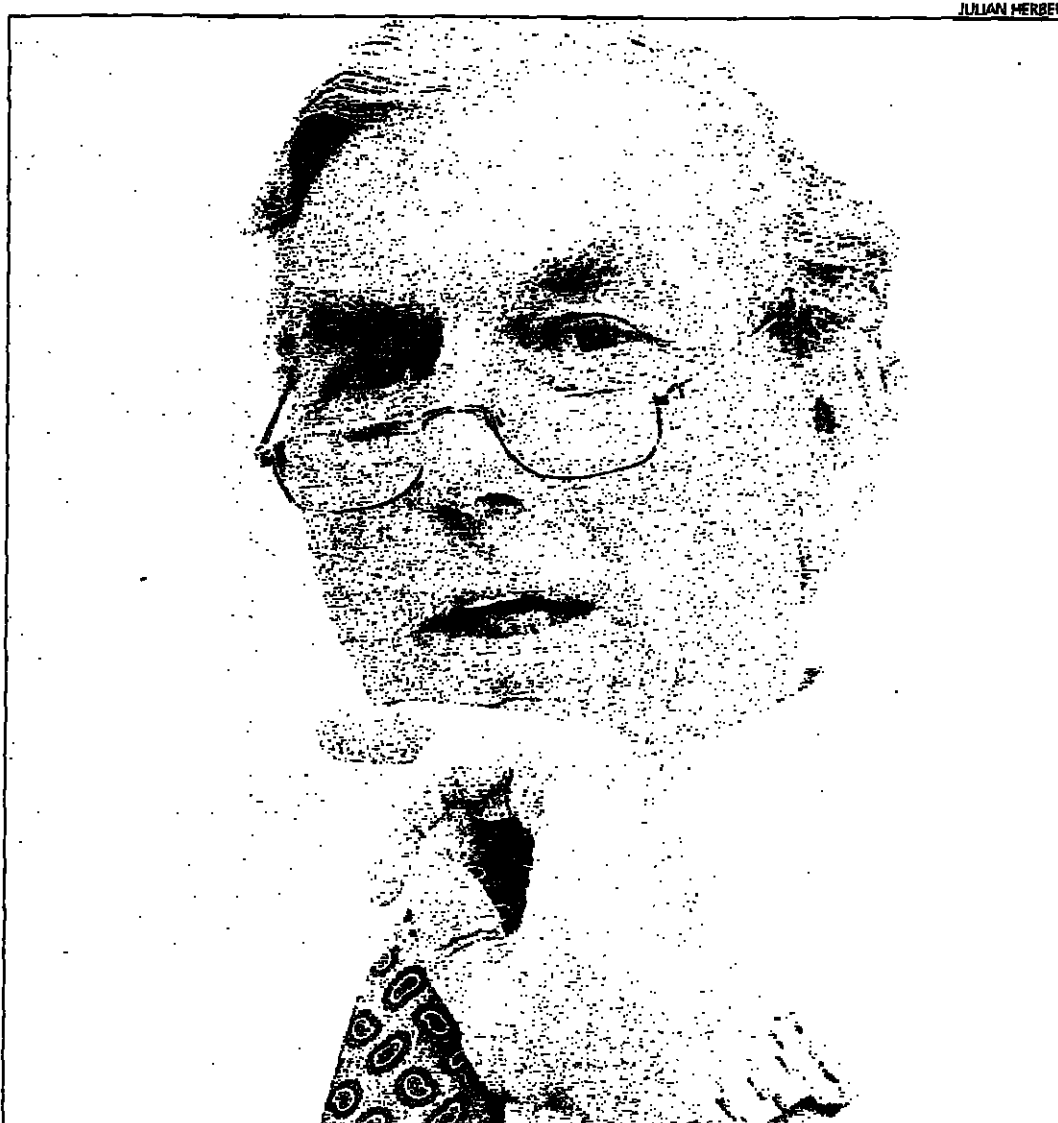
As for criticism that Cahill — the former chief executive of BTR and one of the so-called "gang of four" who turned BTR into a text-book corporate success story — knows nothing about the aerospace industry, he insists this is an advantage. "I am not yet so in love with aeroplanes that I see them as an end in themselves. To me they are a means to an end," he says.

Such tough, direct talk is typical of Cahill. That style of speech, together with his physical appearance — 6ft 4inches tall, broad shouldered, thick wavy grey hair and metal rimmed half-moon spectacles — can make him intimidating. Those who have worked alongside him, warn less experienced colleagues not to be taken in by his relaxed, personable and often humorous manner. He might appear easy going, softly spoken and as if he has all the time in the world, but nothing could be further from the truth. Like his Irish Catholic father, Cahill has a volatile temper — "But I have learnt to control it now and I never hold grudges" — his thoroughness and attention to detail is legendary, and he describes his obsession with punctuality as a fetish.

"I cannot stand being late. I will get to Heathrow two hours before a flight. If I didn't I would get so nervous that my constitution wouldn't be able to stand it. It's a weakness I've got. I always arrive half an hour early for meetings, and sit in the car doing some work. Even at school (St Paul's) if a class started at 9am I would be there at five to nine. And I don't like it if people are late for me. I think that's the rudest thing you can do."

Cahill will then explain that the discipline was instilled in him at boarding school. "I was sent away when I was nine-years-old and I would not recommend it. Even if you absolutely detest a child, don't do it. It is so lonely. I used to sit in my room for hours and look out at a line of trees that were just like the trees I could see from my room at home. It was a very tough regime and I was pretty unhappy. No, I didn't cry. If I had, I wouldn't have been here today."

He was, he says, beaten regularly. "Every weekend the master would say 'choose a cane Cahill'. The thin ones stung and the thick ones just hurt. It quickly ceased to be a deterrent. A master once wrote in my school report: 'Teaching this boy is a nightmare.' With the exception of his eldest daughter



Hands on: John Cahill, the BAe chief, who prides himself on rarely sending memorandums

Karen, 30, who went to a stage school, Cahill's own children — Ann, 28 and Mary, 26 — were sent to day schools. "We laid down the same ground rules for them, like the importance of honesty in every sense," he says. "But I also wanted to give them the material things I had never had, not because my parents did not have the money but because you could not get toys and fountain pens. I wanted to give them a car and buy them somewhere to live. I gave rather than lent. You cannot borrow from an Irishman. An Irishman gives money to you, but he will also expect you to give him money when he is broke." But Cahill would never need to borrow. "I have never had an overdraft," he admits.

"I have always saved. And I always like to pay bills as soon as they arrive. My father never saved and perhaps I reacted against that." For all his father's so-called spendthrift ways, Cahill was born into a comfortable middle-class home in Ruistip and later moved to Holland Park. His father, whom Cahill describes as an entrepreneur, was one of the founders of Blue Circle cement, then bought and operated the franchise for Schapirelli's Shocking perfume, and ended up working for a merchant bank. Cahill, persuaded to follow in his father's footsteps, left school at 17 and went to work for a stockbroker.

He does not, he says, regret not going to university, but says he does wish he had a discipline. "I would have liked to have been a barrister. I love anything to do with words and communication." To this day he prides himself on rarely sending memorandums. "I sit down and talk to people. If I have to send you a memo, then I've got a real communication problem." Cahill's City career ended in redundancy and as he hands out P45s to the next 20,000 BAe employees, they might take comfort from knowing that he too has been in that position. He wrote to 300 companies before landing a job as a conveyor belt salesman with BTR in 1955.

His father was horrified. But Cahill describes it as the most enjoyable job he has ever had. Success has brought the financial security Cahill so obviously craved, but he creates the impression that from all outwardly visible standpoints he has not changed. When it comes to spending on himself he is far from generous, priding himself on paying £130 for suits in the Far East. He has three houses — Kensington, Rhode Island and Florida — but explains that is because of the property slump and says he hopes the Rhode Island home has now been sold.

He is not "a champagne and caviar man," and dislikes long business lunches — "I've only had two since I arrived here. I usually have a sandwich at my desk. You are away for two-and-a-half hours and not only do they break your stride but in that time the world could have caved in."

Cahill's attitude to friendship is as sparing as his approach to business. "I think if you have two or three friends in your life you are doing well." Of his "two or three" one is a teacher, another a welder

and a third is Ed Clark, who worked with Cahill for seven years at BTR in America. Clark is the one person who broke Cahill's golden rule of never having friends among the people with whom he works, on the ground that he might have to sack them.

Clark recalls Cahill as being "very demanding to work for, but very fair. He expects a day's work for a day's pay. He is tough but not ruthless. If someone is not doing their job properly he will simply say goodbye to them but I have never seen him do anything in business that was not proper. He would never cut corners with products." Clark agrees that Cahill is anything but ostentatious. "Having the fanciest house or car in town is not important to him. His company car up until he left BTR was a 1982 Mercedes." Now Cahill drives a Rover. Cahill will, however, hotly deny that he has any liberal tendencies. "I'm a republican, right of centre but not right of Genghis Khan. I think there are too many monopolies in this country. There should be more competition in the utilities and communications." As for the economy, he admits that he is "seriously worried, because once economies go into freefall it's damned hard to catch them" and he predicts that the ERM will eventually be disbanded, thereby allowing interest rates to fall. True to his Irish ancestry, Cahill loves to talk, but as he does so he reveals contradictions. A breathless conversationalist, who, at the same time, hates small talk and enjoys being alone. A man who dislikes public displays of wealth, and an upright, decent and honorable man, who places great store in mutual trust and loyalty, insisting in the next breath that he is wholly unsentimental. "I always forget birthdays and anniversaries."

The most surprising revelation, however, is that Cahill, who has just one sibling — a sister — three daughters and has been happily married for 36 years to his Italian wife, Vanna, feels shy with women. There are no female directors at BAe. "I would find it very hard to work with a lady," he admits with characteristic honesty. "I just could not relax. In fact if you had been a man I would have been entirely different in my responses." In what way? "Much more aggressive and much more assertive."

An Irishman gives money to you, but he will expect you to give him money when he is broke

## WEEK ENDING Matthew Bond

## And a distant band struck up 'Arrivederci Treaty of Roma'

WE join the Eurocurrency Song Contest at a crucial stage. All week, the contest has kept an audience of billions glued to their foreign exchange dealing screens. Now, as the lights dim all over the Continent, the juries are delivering their verdicts to determine who will secure the coveted title and become A Currency for Europe.

The tension is electric as Katie Boyle takes centre-stage, more ravishing than ever in a "Channel-designed" evening dress in the subtlest shade of ecru. She handles the complex voting system with her normal, multilingual aplomb.

"Thank you for your votes, Vienna. Muchas gracias y buenas noches." She turns to the camera with a practiced smile. "And now we move to London for the votes of the Weekending jury. Guzenabend, Londres. May we have your votes please?"

As ever there is a lengthy pause. But, as the first flicker of doubt crosses our hostess's face, the mellifluous tones of your unseen author fill the auditorium.

"Good evening Katie. This is London and here are the votes of the Weekending jury." And here, for you dear reader, is a behind-the-scenes look at just why the London jury voted the way it did.

"Finland, Nil markkas. Sorry Katie — nil point." A brave rendition of that long standing favourite, "Boom, bang-a-bust", but the disharmonies created by Helsinki's decision to decouple the markka from the ERM jarred with more than just the British jurors. Iiro Vilinainen, who in his spare time is finance minister, fairly belted out the lyric, but the simple fact is that lines like "it would be far too expensive for the country to use up all its reserves to defend the markka" are right out of fashion at the moment. Given the subsequent devaluation, Finland could well become the first country to finish the contest with a negative score.

"Sweden, 75 points." A huge cheer rises from the



audience, as the London votes keep the highly popular, satirical chanteuse Anne Wibble at the top of the scoreboard. A last minute change of song from "Money, money, money" to "Waterloo" seems to have paid off for the Swedes. The history book on the shelf may be always repeating itself, but economists have been feverishly flicking through its pages to find the last time overnight deposit rates topped 75 per cent. A canny, anthem-like song, whose chorus "Woe, woe, woe, Waterloo," captures the spirit of the age.

"Norway, 17 points." Generous applause for a country attempting to shake off its reputation for finishing last with "nil point". Might have scored more with "Après toi", but for the line "we will do whatever is necessary to maintain the value of the krone" which some jurors took as further evidence that all

eurocurrency songs sound the same these days. "Italy, 3 points." Giuliano Amato's smooth delivery won over a few admirers but if he does not win tonight he has promised to sing the same song at the next three contests until he does. Some jurors, however, were puzzled by the choice of song for a country with a reputation for changing government on a more or less monthly basis. Still, "Knock, knock, who's there?" has a few lines riding on it, albeit fewer and fewer each minute.

"Germany, 10 points." Would have scored higher, but for the curious decision to enter two versions of the same song. Helmut Kohl's spirited dancing and charming interpretation won a big sympathy vote for "Like a Puppet on a String". But that quickly evaporated after Helmut Schuler delivered a discordant cover version "I've Got a Puppet on a String." Many

jurors complained that the backing group, the Bundesbank Boys, seemed to be singing a completely different song. One juror swore he heard strains of the old Ashton, Gardner & Dyke favourite "Realignment Shuffle". The backing group denied it.

"France, 51 points in favour and 49 against. No I'm sorry Katie, I'll have to update that vote. The Weekending jury is now voting 49 points in favour and 51 votes against." The French could yet regret dropping Elisabeth Guigou's breathlessly seductive "Je t'aime (Vivez, Vivez)" but a deliberate return to an older, more patriotic era seems to be paying off. "Non, je n'regrette rien," could yet swing it — and not just for the French.

"Britain..." Well before giving the vote, it should be pointed out that the Weekending jury is, of course, well acquainted with some of the songs that did not make it to the finals. Eliminated at an early stage was an offering from John Smith and Brian Gould, "Making your mind up." Fatally the pair could never agree on the words.

Nor did the solo effort from Norman Lamont find favour. There was nothing wrong with "You know I'll beg, steal or borrow. To keep your sterling high" — not, at least, the first time. But the endless repetitions were too much even for a eurocurrency song. But Mr Lamont fared better when he teamed up with John Major, little known as a founder member of Middle of the Road. Major and Lamont swept the board in Britain. Could they do the same in Europe?

"Britain, 100 points." Hurrah! Less partial juries are still to vote, but the song looks a winner. That concludes the voting of the Weekending jury. Time then for an early reprise. To a familiar tune: "Devaluations"

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# WEEKEND MONEY

THE TIMES SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12 1992

Edited by Sara McConnell

## Fighting phantom withdrawals

Fighting a large bank is not a pleasant experience. But more and more customers are plucking up courage to do just that. They are refusing to be told that the bank is right, because its systems are infallible, while the customer is not only wrong but potentially dishonest.

This persistence seems to have borne fruit. Yesterday, Barclays announced that it was intending to fight a High Court writ served on it last month by customers disputing cashpoint transactions. Other institutions that have received writs could also decide to fight.

For the first time, a bank is prepared to defend itself in court, rather than try to argue its way out in correspondence or pay off awkward customers behind closed doors. The bank, as well as the customer, will be forced to lay bare its systems and its methods before an independent arbitrator. One difficulty customers have always faced when disputing cashpoint transactions is that the argument has been on the bank's terms. If a bank said it was

impossible to make a cashpoint withdrawal without using a card and a personal identification number (PIN), the customer was hard-pressed to disagree. The bank could always shrug off protests by saying "our records show that a card and a PIN were used at such and such a time". Relatives are often targeted as possible stealers of PINs and cards. Worse, banks could attempt to get rid of their customers by implying that they were dishonest — a deeply hurtful notion to the majority of innocent customers.

In one particularly distressing case, a TSB cardholder, with £7,000 in his account, noticed that the maximum £200 a day was being withdrawn every day from his account. Withdrawals totalled £3,200. TSB suggested the withdrawals might have been made by the cardholder's parents. The bank only accepted this was not the case



COMMENT

SARA MCCONNELL  
PERSONAL FINANCE WRITER

when it was given the unopened envelope containing the PIN number.

Barclays is obviously confident that its systems will withstand any public scrutiny. Three of the nine customers on whose behalf the writ was served are Barclays customers. Interestingly, Barclays compensated one of these clients, excluding the first £50. Under the banking code introduced this year, banks have to compensate customers for wrongful withdrawals, unless customers are proved to be negligent by giving their PIN to another person, for

example. In any other circumstances, the payment of compensation would be tantamount to admitting that the bank was wrong. But the bank is preparing to fight this case on the grounds that its systems were not at fault.

The bank is likely to have a punishing fight on its hands. Denis Whalley, solicitor for the plaintiffs, is hoping to be allowed to produce a wealth of documentary evidence to show that computer glitches in systems can mean accounts are debited wrongly. Cashpoints are also not fraud-proof, as banks admit.

The argument that cashpoint machines are infallible is untenable. No machine is infallible, however advanced the technology may be, and the banks realise this. Otherwise, they would not feel compelled to make ex gratia payments to customers they have wronged. But they fear that admitting that their machines can go wrong will open the floodgates. The longer they leave it, the larger the flood will be.

### For sale

A snip at £45,000. "For sale — run-down, three-bedroom detached house in Cirencester, early sixties built, in need of complete renovation. Two reception rooms, no heating, no parking and surrounded on two sides by factories and warehouses." Since advertising this property in these less than glowing terms in the local press three

weeks ago, an estate agent has managed to agree a sale. Encouraged by the results of this "new realism", the agent is planning to extend his descriptive powers to other properties in the next few weeks.

If this works, why not do it? It is certainly not the first time beleaguered estate agents have tried this alternative selling method, but it could be worth resurrecting in the moribund housing market. Now that buyers have the whip hand over estate agents, they could force them to lay to rest extravagant claims. House buyers have grown adept at translating "estate agent speak", knowing that *piet-a-terre* means "converted broom cupboard", "sought after area" means "you only hear the railway at the back of the house".

Unfortunately, most sellers are as reluctant as estate agents to do down their homes in an estate agent's description. They do not have the nerve to draw attention to all the faults they hope buyers will not notice. Maybe they should think again. They can hardly lose.

### Regulators face a radical shake-up

## Investors to gain better protection from rule reform

By Sara McConnell

JUST four years after the Financial Services Act ushered in what everyone hoped would be a new era of investor protection, the whole system is poised for a radical overhaul. Consumer groups are arguing that the changes will not be far-reaching enough and that many investors could be left with inadequate protection.

The writing has been on the wall for the present system of investor protection since this March when an independent report by Sir Kenneth Clucas, commissioned by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), concluded that the four existing self-regulatory organisations dealing with the sale of different sorts of savings and investments to the public should be slotted down into one responsible for regulating all companies' dealings with private investors.

On September 24, the industry committee responsible for drawing up plans for the new organisation, provisionally called the Personal Investment Authority (PIA), will publish a consultative paper outlining how this should be achieved. Details of the committee's deliberations are shrouded in secrecy, but they are likely to include the future funding and financing of the regulator, its complaints structure and proposals for a compensation fund. If all goes according to plan, the new system should be in place by July.

Both industry and consumer groups are keen for the PIA to work. A single regulator for life assurance, personal pensions and unit trusts should reduce the cost of regulation to companies, which indirectly reduces the cost to consumers. It should also make monitoring of salesmen easier and prevent them from transferring from one regulator to another to avoid detection of wrongdoing. There is likely to be a central ombudsman handling investment complaints. Instead of the present confusing half dozen, importantly, the controversial question of who should meet the increasing bills of the Investors' Compensation Scheme would be cleared up. All members of the PIA would be expected to pay their share. However, consumer representatives argue

that regulators should make much more radical changes while the system is being rationalised, particularly in widening the scope of the new regulator to include mortgages and other credit as well as bank and building society deposits. The present Financial Services Act only regulates assets, not liabilities. In other words, it covers investments, but excludes mortgages and other loans.

A report from Mintel, the market research company, on customer service in personal finance this week suggested that the act should be thoroughly reviewed. "One aspect of such a review would be consideration of extending the FSA over the whole field of savings and investment, including bank and building society deposits. Because of the limited scope of the FSA, financial advisers, whether IFAs or tied agents or company representatives, are entirely within the law if they ignore National Savings products and building society accounts in their recommendations to clients, notwithstanding the conventional wisdom that both of these should have a place in the portfolios of most people."

The act created what many admitted was an over-complex system to regulate the selling of life assurance, personal pensions and unit trusts. One senior regulator described it this week as a "dog's breakfast".

The SIB was created under the act to oversee the setting up of five self-regulatory organisations. The Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (Lautro) is responsible for monitoring life offices and unit trust companies' marketing and advertising. Confusingly, salesmen who sell the products of just one life company are not directly regulated by anyone but are the responsibility of the life office. This arrangement will continue. The Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra) regulates most independent financial advisers but others, dealing mainly in investments rather than insurance, are regulated by the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (Imro). Imro also regulates firms dealing with institutional investors, such as pension fund trustees, and the investment activities of life offices and unit trust companies. Most stockbrokers are members of the Securities and Futures Authority, itself a merger of The Securities Association and the Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers, and may also be members of Imro.

The existing system means that many companies, including life offices and unit trust managers, have to be members of more than one of these bodies. The resulting increase in costs has been passed on to investors.

At the same time, the regulators have not succeeded in stopping a worrying large number of authorised advisers from defrauding investors. The cost of compensating investors under the Investors' Compensation Scheme set up in 1988 has risen sharply. The scheme pays out a maximum of £48,000 to those investing in firms authorised under the act and declared in default. The estimated total cost under the scheme was expected to be £37 million in 1991-2, but claims are still coming in, particularly from elderly investors who were encouraged to remortgage their homes and put the money in investment bonds based on home income plans.

The vast majority of claims through the Investors' Compensation Scheme have been against independent financial advisers who are members of Fimbra, but members of other regulatory bodies, particularly Lautro, have reluctantly been meeting part of the cost over the past two years.

This last is a big sticking point for banks and building societies which are under pressure to join the PIA. About 80 institutions, mostly banks and building societies, have some or all of their investment business regulated directly by the SIB. So far they have been reluctant to consider a move to the PIA. They argue that they have not been involved enough in making decisions and are also worried about being forced to help meet the costs of compensation. This week, banks said they needed more encouragement to join than they are getting at the moment, including a limit to the amount they will have to pay out under the compensation scheme.

Christopher Sharp, managing director of the Northern Rock Building Society, has just joined the formation committee as the first building society representative. He said: "Building societies would be interested in joining the PIA but what is it going to cost? Why should building society customers pay for Fimbra members' mistakes through their reserves?"

If banks and societies do not join the PIA, they will not be covered by any complaints system run by the new authority. Sir Kenneth's ideal of a central complaints system could also be scuppered by Imro, which is arguing that less than 30 per cent of its members, mostly unit trust groups, deal with the public and need to be members of the PIA.



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## Seeking redress in a lending market

BORROWERS who feel they have been wrongly persuaded to take out a certain type of mortgage or unsecured bank or building society loan have little redress under the present regulations (Sara McConnell writes).

Those with occupational pensions have discovered to their cost this year that they are almost powerless. Critics say the various regulations have developed piecemeal and should be scrapped in favour of a single act of Parliament covering all investments, credits and deposits.

The advertising of credit is regulated by the Consumer Credit Act 1974 and policed by local trading standards officers. The rules apply to all lenders from the Halifax down to the smallest back street mortgage broker and include details of how a loan's annual percentage rate (APR) should be displayed.

Lenders of secured loans must also remind people their home is at risk if they do not keep up payments secured on it. However, lenders are not required to demonstrate they have offered the best type of loan for the borrower's circumstances. The investment part of an endowment, pension or PEP mortgage is

covered by the Financial Services Act but the actual loan advance is not.

Helena Wiesner, an independent consultant who wrote a report on saving and investment consumer issues for the Office of Fair Trading this summer, said: "There should be consistent regulation, including the credit side, particularly as mortgages are so often tied up with the sale of endowments."

Jean Eaglesham, head of money policy at the Consumers' Association, said recent problems with investment-based home income plans suggested mortgages should be brought within the scope of the act. Only the investment part of such "hybrid" plans is regulated under the act, while it appears not to be anyone's responsibility to ask whether lenders had acted responsibly in granting mortgages to elderly people on fixed incomes.

Occupational pension schemes are not covered by the act, but a separate pensions act is being considered in the wake of the Maxwell debacle. This could include a compulsory compensation fund levy. Professor Roy Goode, who was appointed by the government in July to review the regulatory framework for pensions, is

expected to produce his first consultation paper at the end of this month. Most pension fund trustees and investment companies are members of Imro, which came under fire earlier this year for not doing more to stop Maxwell plundering his company's pension funds.

John Morgan, Imro's chief executive, strongly defended the regulator's role this week: "We are putting the lessons of Maxwell very much to work and we have a strong programme of reorganisation. I would say that we have a good regulatory record and that investors have had a lot of support from Imro."

However, he denied that Imro should be putting more pressure on all members to join the PIA on the grounds that their actions, as shown by the Maxwell affair, had a direct effect on private investors.

There is also pressure for bank and building society deposits to be brought under the umbrella of a new investments act. At the moment, if a bank collapses, savers are entitled to 75 per cent of the first £20,000 lost.

A similar scheme for building societies pays 90 per cent of the first £20,000 per person.



# Caution urged on equities until after French poll

Whatever the result of France's referendum on ratifying the Maastricht treaty the equity markets will remain uncertain, investment managers believe. Karen Woolfson reports

INVESTMENT managers expect equities to plunge in Europe in the short term if the French vote "no" in the referendum on September 20 to ratify the Maastricht treaty. To soften the potential blow, the managers are raising cash levels in unit trusts exposed to the Continent.

If the French vote "yes", short-term constraints on equity markets will be removed, which could see them move up, but worries about high German interest rates and the outcome of the American elections will remain a dampener.

Richard Lehman, investment director of Eagle Star Investment Managers, said: "Investors are better off having money in their pockets rather than in European unit trusts if they want to be in for six months only. But if they are in for a reasonable period of time the prospects for European markets are good."

European unit trusts performed better on average than those in Japan, the Far East and North America over one year until July 1 1992. But since then, funds have increased the cash element up to 8.5 per cent to protect themselves

from current uncertainty as they have come under pressure.

Mr Lehman thinks markets will slump 5 per cent in the very short term if the French vote "no", until people start to evaluate the damage done to the ERM and EMU. How long markets stayed depressed, he said, would depend on whether Europe can draw up a replacement to the Maastricht treaty which retained the underlying principles of economic co-operation.

Hilary Fane, head of European research at Hill Samuel, agrees. The initial reaction to a "no" vote would cause more turmoil in the currency markets, depress equities and encourage interest rates to rise, but she believes some potential bad news has been discounted in share prices already.

She said: "This summer there has been a broad realisation that recovery is not around the corner with the weak US dollar, tight German monetary policy and weak European economies. Even a French 'no' vote has been discounted a little."

A "no" vote would mean one of two things, Ms Fane said. The Maastricht treaty could be



Keeping watch: Richard Lehman says some investors may be better holding on to their money

dropped but the ERM could continue to operate while EMU is put off for some years. Alternatively, the treaty could be dropped, leading to the break up of the ERM. That would lead to pressure on

some currencies, such as the pound, to devalue and others to revalue, causing turmoil as interest rates were used to help support currencies. If inflation is not well handled in devalued markets, equi-

ties could go down, but if the opposite is true, it could be a spur to economies. Ms Fane said: "I am optimistic for European equities and unit trusts on a one-year view. I believe the German economy is

slowing down, which will lead to lower interest rates within 12 months, and the rest of Europe will follow." She believes Spain and Italy look attractive on a five-year view and France over one year.

However, Eagle Star's Mr Lehman said that if Germany was not able to bring down growth without going into recession, the outlook for Europe would be bleaker than many now forecast.

Adam Parkin, director of John Govett Unit Management, which runs the Govett MIS European Bear and Index funds, takes a more unusual line. "Don't invest in Europe. Look towards the US, particularly over the six-month to one-year view. The US dollar is weak and looks good value. My main concern is that the French will vote 'yes' and present policies continue."

He believes a "yes" vote might cause equities and unit trust prices to go up as people sigh with relief, but is not the best long-term outcome. He adds: "A 'no' vote would scupper Maastricht and allow the rest of Europe to disengage from the ERM, which I think is very positive."

Roger Guy, manager of Eagle Star European, a star performer within the sector over one year and among the top 20 funds over five, thinks a "yes" vote will lead the UK equity market to rise up to 10 per cent. He has increased cash held in the fund from 5 per cent on August 3, to 8 per cent because of

uncertainty. He thinks recovery will come through in 1994, so long-term Europe looks good value but short-term investors could lose money.

He has put 20 per cent of Eagle Star's portfolio into defensive Swiss shares like Nestlé, which he expects to grow whatever state the economy is in. Another 15 per cent is in The Netherlands, for the same reason, and 25 per cent in France. The vote may be on the horizon, but Mr Guy says tough conditions have led France to rationalise and it is less likely to suffer if economies worsen and is well placed if they improve.

Only 15 per cent is in Germany, as it has had two boom years. As the economy slows down, profits will be squeezed, which is not yet reflected in share prices. Mr Guy has reduced the amount held in Italy, Spain and Sweden because they have suffered more than most.

Lazard European Growth, which has been among the top five European unit trusts since it was launched in 1986, is not convinced a "no" vote is a disaster.

Patricia Maxwell-Arnot, director of Lazard investors, said: "It's far too late to sell in Europe. I think there should be a more meaningful rally in the future as the monetary cycle turns around. I wouldn't advise people on a shorter term basis than a year."

But she does admit over the next four years that people might be better off investing in the building society.

## Insurers add to housing woes

By LIZ DOLAN

THE increasingly tough stance adopted by insurers on mortgage indemnity cover is proving an added threat to recovery in the housing market.

Recent moves by insurance companies to concentrate on their larger clients have left several of the smaller lenders without the means to serve first-time buyers. At the same time, new agreements reached between the remaining lenders and their insurance companies will mean higher mortgage costs, thus creating a further disincentive to would-be borrowers.

Dane Douetil, director of Special Risk Services, the specialist mortgage indemnity insurance broker, said: "We estimate that, by the end of this year, 30 per cent of the market will be without cover. And that's on current volumes. When business increases, the situation will be even worse."

Several overseas insurers are planning to enter the market for the first time, but the effect will not be felt until next year. Leading building societies have been able to trade their ability to deliver stable chunks of buildings insurance business in exchange for a reasonable level of cover.

Many of the smaller societies with less marketing muscle have been forced out of the company market. Some are trying to obtain cover from Lloyd's of London, but not all will be successful.

Rod DeAth, manager, underwriting, Sun Alliance, said: "I would think that what capacity there is in the Lloyd's

market will be used up very quickly. It's a new area for them and I would expect them to be feeling their way very carefully, especially given the example of how the major insurers have suffered so far and, of course, the general problems Lloyd's itself has been experiencing."

Few building societies without domestic mortgage indemnity insurance (DMI) will be able to lend more than 75 per cent of a property's value. This will rule out all but the wealthiest first-time buyers.

As a consequence of crippling DMI losses, the country's four main DMI companies, Sun Alliance, Royal Insurance, Legal & General and Eagle Star, have devised new policy terms, which will leave lenders with lower levels of cover.

DMI has never applied the first 75 per cent of the mortgage. Under the new policy, wording, cover will be further limited to 80 per cent of the final 25 per cent.

Lenders will now have to carry the extra 20 per cent risk on their own books, an added expense that, in one way or another, will have to be passed on to lenders.

Some commentators maintain that premiums are still not high enough. When house prices start to rise again, they are not expected to grow by more than 4 or 5 per cent a year.

That will mean a permanent extra risk that lenders will be unable to recoup the full cost of a loan from the sale of repossessed homes.

## Fidelity lengthens hours of trading

By SARA MCCONNELL

FIDELITY has lengthened its trading hours and reduced commission on smaller deals in the UK, as part of an extended execution-only stock-broking service. It has also abolished the £25 joining fee it charged on its existing execution-only service, Fidelity Share Service. But commission on deals above £5,000 has increased by an average of 20 per cent.

The company has maintained its minimum commission of £25 for deals of £2,500 and under. Those buying or selling between £1,400 and £3,900 of stock will be charged a reduced commission of £25 down from £50, while dealing in £5,000 worth of stock will still cost £50. Deals of £40,000 or over are charged at 0.25 per cent, up to £250.

Fidelity says investors carrying out ten trades a year of £5,000 each would pay £340 less in commission than they would to a traditional stockbroker and 33 per cent less on average than to an execution-only firm. Investors with

£2,000 of stock would pay £18 less than they would to a traditional stockbroker, according to a Fidelity survey during August of eight full-cost stockbrokers giving advice. Mark Collier, managing director of Fidelity Brokerage, said the aim of the expanded service was to "offer everything the independent investor wants bar advice".

From this weekend, telephone lines will be open from 9am to 9pm for buying and selling UK stocks. On weekdays, lines are open from 8am to 6pm. Contract notes will be sent out on the day of the transaction, the company said. Fidelity will run nominee accounts for investors to simplify transaction arrangements, with no extra charge.

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| Best buy - all socs:     |      |      |      |            |        |  |
| The Shareholders         | 7.50 | 7.50 | 6.00 | 250 min    | Postal |  |
| Northolme Bank           | 7.50 | 7.50 | 6.00 | 40,000 min | 30 day |  |
| St James                 | 7.50 | 7.50 | 6.00 | 50,000 min | 60 day |  |
| National Counties        | 7.50 | 7.50 | 6.00 | 50,000 min | 90 day |  |
| Furness                  | 7.50 | 7.50 | 6.00 | 50,000 min | 1 year |  |

## Cash/Cheque Accounts:

|                      |      |      |      |        |             |
|----------------------|------|------|------|--------|-------------|
| Barclays             | 2.00 | 1.50 | 1.50 | 50 min | Rates rise  |
| Alliance & Leicester | 2.44 | 2.44 | 1.56 | 25 min | with larger |
| Cash Plus            | 1.88 | 1.88 | 1.50 | 1 min  | balances    |

Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyfile - call 071 404 5768 for further details

## NATIONAL SAVINGS

|                    |       |       |       |               |        |              |
|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|--------|--------------|
| Ordinary A/c       | 5.00  | 3.75  | 3.00  | 5-10,000      | 8 day  | 041-648-4555 |
| Investment A/c     | 5.00  | 3.75  | 3.00  | 5-10,000      | 1 mth  | 041-648-4555 |
| Income Bond*       | 9.25  | 6.94  | 5.55  | 2,000-50,000  | 3 mth  | 0253 88151   |
| First Cert Bond    | 7.25  | 7.25  | 5.80  | 1,000-250,000 | 1 mth  | 041-648-4555 |
| 30th Issue Cert*   | 7.50  | 7.50  | 7.50  | 25-5,000      | 8 day  | 081-385 4800 |
| Yearly Plan        | 7.50  | 7.50  | 7.50  | 20-40,000     | 14 day | 081-385 4800 |
| Child's First Bond | 10.10 | 10.10 | 10.10 | 25-1,000      | 1 mth  | 041-648-4555 |
| Gen Est Refr       | 5.01  | 5.01  | 5.01  | 100-100,000   | 8 days | 041-648-4555 |
| Capital Bond       | 10.00 | 7.50  | 5.00  | 100-100,000   | 8 days | 041-648-4555 |

## GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

|                     |      |      |      |            |       |              |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------------|-------|--------------|
| Consolidated Life   | 8.50 | 8.50 | 7.23 | 2,000 min  | 1 yrs | Figures from |
| Canvass Lincoln     | 8.50 | 8.50 | 7.23 | 2,000 min  | 2 yrs | Chase de     |
| Lawrence Life       | 8.50 | 8.50 | 7.45 | 50,000 min | 3 yrs | Vere         |
| Financial Assurance | 8.55 | 8.55 | 7.27 | 5,000 min  | 4 yrs | 071 404 5768 |
| Lawrence Life       | 8.55 | 8.55 | 7.51 | 50,000 min | 5 yrs | for details  |

|                    |          |                  |         |
|--------------------|----------|------------------|---------|
| RPI (August 91-92) | +3.5%    | Spanish Pesetas: | 175.00  |
| Bank Base Rate     | 10%      | French Francs:   | 9.22    |
| Personal Loan      | 24%      | Greek Drachmas:  | 328.00  |
| Credit Card        | 18.5-32% | Italian Lira:    | 2022.00 |

\* 2.5% for balances below £200, half 2% of interest tax free, further access for withdrawals of £100 or less. 1. Additional charges up to £10,000 for arrears in arrears, provided it doesn't exceed 1% of the total. 2. Tax free. 3. Interest payable on a regular basis. 4. No longer an offer.

## LARGER LENDERS

| Lender | Interest Rate | Loan Size | Max % | Notes |
|--------|---------------|-----------|-------|-------|
|--------|---------------|-----------|-------|-------|

## BUILDING SOCIETIES

|                       |      |            |    |                                    |
|-----------------------|------|------------|----|------------------------------------|
| Britannia             | 9.50 | £100K-200K | 95 | After 1.25% discount for 12 months |
| Lothian Permanent     | 9.70 | £40K+      | 95 | After 1.0% discount for 12 months  |
| Lothian Permanent     | 9.50 | £40K+      | 95 | After 1.0% discount for 12 months  |
| National & Provincial | 9.20 | £50K+      | 90 | After 1.5% discount to 1.1%        |

## BANKS

|          |      |          |    |                                   |
|----------|------|----------|----|-----------------------------------|
| Barclays | 9.45 | £50-500K | 90 | After 1.25% discount for 1st year |
|----------|------|----------|----|-----------------------------------|

## BANKS

|        |      |       |    |                   |
|--------|------|-------|----|-------------------|
| Lloyds | 9.70 | £50K+ | 95 | After 1% discount |
|--------|------|-------|----|-------------------|

Source: City's Mortgage Tables, City's Guide Ltd. Tel: 0753 880482

## Put the spotlight on life offices

From Mr A. Jenkins  
Sir, Your campaign (September 5) to expose life office charges and commissions is to be applauded, but surely few people expect anything other than yet another whitewash in favour of the life offices from the latest OFT study.

The extent to which statutory bodies such as the SIB and OFT have, in the past, protected the interests of the life offices at the expense of the consumer is quite extraordinary. Indeed, it is difficult to identify any other consumer activity where the so-called regulatory bodies have taken such little account of the consumers' interests.

Perhaps, in the future, the Times could assist in these matters. It already publishes comprehensive data on interest rates, share prices and other financial matters. Why not include current commission rates and charges on a range of financial products, together with regular updates and analyses of life offices' expense ratios and costs.

After all, Business Times regularly dissects and analyses other types of companies' business activities, costs and margins. Why not give the life offices the same treatment? Yours faithfully,  
A. JENKINS,  
6 Wisley Road, SW11.

## Lenders' role

From A. W. A. Poole  
Sir, I read with interest the letter from a retired bank manager (August 15) about the responsibility for mortgage troubles. Having retired myself from bank management at about the same time as the writer (and, no doubt, left my successor some problems to clear up) I have some sympathy with his views. Marking was a prime cause of many problems, but much of this was driven not by the need to make loans but to earn insurance commission. Selling insurance became a main objective, the lending followed on.

I appreciate that the banks were the lenders and, therefore, carry much of the blame, but there are two other professions involved. Banks relied heavily upon surveyors and valuers (as did the borrowers) and it would be interesting to read many of those optimistic valuations today. Perhaps the banks should have relied more upon the old-fashioned "forced sale" basis rather than the "vacant possession" basis. Much commercial lending was, however, accountancy-driven. In the late 1980s, branch managers were inundated by propositions put together by hopeful entrepreneurs and creative accountants, with cash flows, profit forecasts etc beautifully laid out and expensively put together. Very often, the accountants would hawk the proposition around until they found a lender, but I have seen very little criticism by the borrowers of those who helped lead them into their crises.

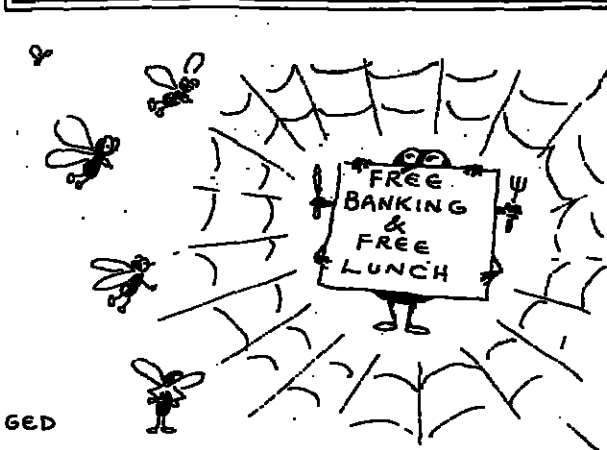
Yours faithfully,  
A. W. A. POOLE,  
2 Appletrees, Manor Road,  
East Preston, West Sussex.

## Portfolio

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 29).

| Sec | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun | Weekly |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| 1   | +4  | +9  | +6  | +4  | +5  |     |     |        |
| 2   | +6  | +5  | +3  | +8  | +6  |     |     |        |
| 3   | +8  | +5  | +8  | +8  | +4  |     |     |        |
| 4   | +5  | +8  | +5  | +3  | +8  |     |     |        |
| 5   | +5  | +4  | +1  | +5  | +5  |     |     |        |
| 6   | +7  | +4  | +3  | +8  | +7  |     |     |        |
| 7   | +7  | +8  | +2  | +3  | +8  |     |     |        |
| 8   | +4  | +7  | +6  | +5  | +4  |     |     |        |
| 9   | +6  | +4  | +2  | +7  | +5  |     |     |        |
| 10  | +7  | +8  | +5  | +5  | +6  |     |     |        |
| 11  | +9  | +5  | +3  | +4  | +6  |     |     |        |
| 12  | +5  | +8  | +2  | +5  | +3  |     |     |        |
| 13  | +6  | +8  | +3  | +3  | +6  |     |     |        |
| 14  | +6  | +4  | +2  | +4  | +8  |     |     |        |
| 15  | +4  | +7  | +4  | +5  | +5  |     |     |        |
| 16  | +5  | +4  | +2  | +8  | +3  |     |     |        |
| 17  | +3  | +7  | +5  | +4  | +5  |     |     |        |
| 18  | +6  | +8  | +3  | +8  | +4  |     |     |        |
| 19  | +6  | +3  | +1  | +8  | +9  |     |     |        |
| 20  | +5  | +7  | +5  | +4  | +4  |     |     |        |
| 21  | +4  | +8  | +2  | +6  | +4  |     |     |        |
| 22  | +6  | +4  | +3  | +4  | +7  |     |     |        |
| 23  | +8  | +5  | +4  | +3  | +7  |     |     |        |
| 24  | +5  | +4  | +2  | +4  | +8  |     |     |        |
| 25  | +4  | +7  | +4  | +3  | +5  |     |     |        |
| 26  | +5  | +6  | +3  | +7  | +4  |     |     |        |
| 27  | +6  | +7  | +3  | +3  | +5  |     |     |        |
| 28  | +5  | +8  | +2  | +5  | +9  |     |     |        |
| 29  | +4  | +6  | +5  | +4  | +5  |     |     |        |
| 30  | +7  | +5  | +2  | +5  | +7  |     |     |        |
| 31  | +5  | +8  | +2  | +7  | +3  |     |     |        |
| 32  | +7  | +3  | +3  | +4  | +9  |     |     |        |
| 33  | +7  | +5  | +3  | +3  | +6  |     |     |        |
| 34  | +3  | +8  | +5  | +3  | +4  |     |     |        |
| 35  | +4  | +7  | +4  | +6  | +5  |     |     |        |
| 36  | +8  | +6  | +4  | +3  | +6  |     |     |        |
| 37  | +6  | +4  | +2  | +5  | +8  |     |     |        |
| 38  | +9  | +7  | +3  | +3  | +8  |     |     |        |
| 39  | +5  | +5  | +2  | +5  | +5  |     |     |        |
| 40  | +6  | +5  | +3  | +2  | +6  |     |     |        |
| 41  | +4  | +8  | +5  | +4  | +6  |     |     |        |
| 42  | +4  | +5  | +2  | +7  | +4  |     |     |        |
| 43  | +6  | +5  | +3  | +3  | +7  |     |     |        |
| 44  | +7  | +4  | +2  | +6  | +9  |     |     |        |

## LETTERS



## Free banking is similar to the free lunch

From Mr Ian Chapman  
Sir, I note that high street banks may be forced by financial stringency to withdraw so-called "free banking" to customers maintaining a positive balance. Surely, free banking no more exists than does a free lunch.

In order to be sure of maintaining a positive balance, on a normally busy personal account without constant vigilance, there will always be a balance - sometimes sizable - which will be at the disposal of the bank to earn interest on for the benefit of the bank. For example, an average balance of just £500, at 10 per cent per annum would mean a service charge of £50 per annum. In addition to this direct financial consideration, the bank also has access to potential customers for its other revenue earning products and financial services.

This too has a definite commercial value. Yours faithfully,  
IAN CHAPMAN,  
21 Benslow Rise,  
Hitchin,  
Hertfordshire.

## Insurers and discounts for anti-theft measures

From Dr Don Moody  
Sir, Insurers most definitely do not try to encourage people to reduce the risk of burglary with discounts for those who take anti-theft measures.

What they do is to reduce with trivial discounts or pressure by refusal of theft cover so that householders are forced to pay rip-off prices to what appears to act as an illegal cartel, otherwise known as Nacoss members. Moreover, it appears that the insurers themselves are acting as a cartel by refusing to accept self-installed and self-inspected anti-theft systems as giving any cover at all. Even when

such systems contain twice as many detectors and alarms as the Nacoss recommendations, and are inspected more than ten times as often.

It might be an interesting piece of investigative reporting to look at the share registers of all Nacoss members and find out just what proportion of such shares are held by the insurers directly or by others indirectly on the insurers' behalf. Yours faithfully,  
DON MOODY,  
Sandown House,  
Ilstington,  
Newton Abbot,  
Devon.

## Lost interest and third-party cheques

From Mr Stanley Jacobs  
Sir, Following my own recent experience, I am writing to warn your readers of an unexpected source of lost interest when operating the type of savings account where an interest penalty is imposed on a withdrawal made without the required period of notice.

I had assumed this applied only to deliberate withdrawals made without notice by the account holder. I was proved wrong in the case of my Nationwide Monthly Income Account (with a 90-day notice period).

I paid in a third-party cheque, drawn on Barclays Bank, which was returned by Barclays, who queried the signature (as it happened, the correct signatories had signed). Within a few days I had obtained and paid in a replacement cheque, which was duly honoured, and thought no more of the matter.

Yours sincerely,  
STANLEY JACOBS,  
77 Long Lane, N3.

## Mortgage solution

From J. G. Berry  
Sir, The answer to the problem of home owners who wish to move but cannot do so because their house is worth less than their outstanding mortgage is simply illustrated.

A couple have an outstanding mortgage of £50,000 on a property currently worth £40,000. They wish to purchase a property at a cost of £55,000. They can do this if their existing lender grants them a new mortgage for £65,000 and rolls over the shortfall in security onto the new property. The lender again has a property charged to them which is worth less than the outstanding loan but the deficit is proportionately less. When property prices recover the shortfall will disappear more quickly on the new property than on the old and the lender will then have a greater level of security than the original property.

The first bank or building society to overcome any legal, accounting or taxation difficulties there may be to introducing such a scheme will be doing a great service to their borrowers, the housing market, the economy and not least of all their shareholders. Yours faithfully,  
J. G. BERRY,  
The Pops, Darland Lane,  
Rossett, Clwyd.

## Pound in the pocket

From Mr George Muggleton  
Sir, The pensioners' index theory is nonsense as the value of a "pound in the pocket" does not vary from person to person according to their choice of expenditure, which is entirely their own affair. It is nothing more than a ploy to avoid giving a full retail price index increase to pensions in payment.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE MUGGLETON,  
Trestops,  
Little Windmill Hill,  
Chipperton,  
Hertfordshire.

Letters are welcomed, but *The Times* regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.

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## PEP M&G DIVIDEND PERFORMANCE SINCE LAUNCH

| Year<br>Ended<br>31st Dec | £6,000 Lump Sum        |                          |                              | £50 per month      |                        |                          |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
|                           | M&G<br>Dividend<br>Net | M&G<br>Dividend<br>Gross | Gross<br>Building<br>Society | Amount<br>Invested | M&G<br>Dividend<br>Net | M&G<br>Dividend<br>Gross | Gross<br>Building<br>Society |
| 6.5.1964                  | £6,000                 | £6,000                   | £6,000                       | £50                | £50                    | £50                      | £50                          |
| 1964                      | 5,796                  | 5,796                    | 6,230                        | 350                | 319                    | 319                      | 357                          |
| 1965                      | 6,504                  | 6,672                    | 6,633                        | 950                | 974                    | 992                      | 1,001                        |
| 1966                      | 6,120                  | 6,360                    | 7,094                        | 1,550              | 1,456                  | 1,487                    | 1,693                        |
| 1967                      | 7,224                  | 7,728                    | 7,610                        | 2,150              | 2,331                  | 2,424                    | 2,439                        |
| 1968                      | 9,900                  | 10,872                   | 8,187                        | 2,750              | 3,866                  | 4,087                    | 3,249                        |
| 1969                      | 8,256                  | 9,252                    | 8,872                        | 3,350              | 3,766                  | 4,022                    | 4,148                        |
| 1970                      | 8,376                  | 9,636                    | 9,634                        | 3,950              | 4,411                  | 4,784                    | 5,132                        |
| 1971                      | 12,696                 | 15,036                   | 10,437                       | 4,550              | 7,452                  | 8,236                    | 6,186                        |
| 1972                      | 15,696                 | 18,960                   | 11,286                       | 5,150              | 9,839                  | 11,017                   | 7,315                        |
| 1973                      | 11,832                 | 14,496                   | 12,395                       | 5,750              | 7,869                  | 8,878                    | 8,667                        |
| 1974                      | 7,224                  | 9,036                    | 13,810                       | 6,350              | 5,225                  | 5,956                    | 10,294                       |
| 1975                      | 16,164                 | 20,760                   | 15,373                       | 6,950              | 12,446                 | 14,446                   | 12,095                       |
| 1976                      | 15,596                 | 20,436                   | 17,078                       | 7,550              | 12,512                 | 14,770                   | 14,072                       |
| 1977                      | 24,696                 | 33,288                   | 18,939                       | 8,150              | 20,559                 | 24,739                   | 16,241                       |
| 1978                      | 27,396                 | 37,812                   | 20,817                       | 8,750              | 23,390                 | 28,689                   | 18,482                       |
| 1979                      | 28,476                 | 40,176                   | 23,434                       | 9,350              | 24,848                 | 31,022                   | 21,448                       |
| 1980                      | 32,436                 | 46,836                   | 27,023                       | 9,950              | 28,864                 | 36,727                   | 25,386                       |
| 1981                      | 37,464                 | 55,488                   | 30,688                       | 10,550             | 33,929                 | 44,107                   | 29,470                       |
| 1982                      | 45,672                 | 69,288                   | 34,667                       | 11,150             | 41,981                 | 55,699                   | 33,931                       |
| 1983                      | 65,964                 | 102,180                  | 38,362                       | 11,750             | 61,304                 | 82,815                   | 38,180                       |
| 1984                      | 90,504                 | 142,368                  | 42,722                       | 12,350             | 84,781                 | 116,061                  | 43,157                       |
| 1985                      | 112,968                | 180,180                  | 48,189                       | 12,950             | 106,466                | 147,530                  | 49,323                       |
| 1986                      | 152,352                | 245,892                  | 53,615                       | 13,550             | 144,214                | 201,966                  | 55,510                       |
| 1987                      | 184,248                | 300,696                  | 59,392                       | 14,150             | 174,961                | 247,537                  | 62,125                       |
| 1988                      | 203,160                | 335,220                  | 65,131                       | 14,750             | 193,510                | 276,549                  | 68,757                       |
| 1989                      | 257,076                | 428,544                  | 73,382                       | 15,350             | 245,483                | 354,160                  | 78,117                       |
| 1990                      | 218,640                | 368,880                  | 84,046                       | 15,950             | 209,307                | 305,380                  | 90,123                       |
| 1991                      | 226,320                | 387,120                  | 93,554                       | 16,550             | 217,187                | 321,009                  | 100,945                      |
| 31.8.1992                 | 221,040                | 384,480                  | 99,409*                      | 16,950             | 212,462                | 319,164                  | 107,658*                     |



## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

## Waiting for the chancellor

Despite a boost for Peps, investors still lack confidence, reports Christine Whelan

After the March Budget, investment trust companies were the first to congratulate Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, for his decision to raise the investment trust Personal Equity Plan limit to £6,000 a year.

Six months on, the industry is still hanging on to the chancellor's every word, hoping for some indication that recovery is on the way and that private investors will regain the confidence to take their money off deposit.

Until that happens, and investors begin to venture back into the equity markets, investment trust companies will be unable to take full advantage of their new post-Budget powers. But when signs of an upturn do appear, industry leaders believe they will be well-placed to present investment trusts as the equity investment of choice for the private investor.

"The Association of Investment Trust Companies have put in a lot of work in raising their profile and knowledge of investment trusts among investors and their advisers," says Keith Falconer, of Edinburgh Investment specialists Martin Currie. "In two or three years' time we will reap the harvest — but it has been a long, long winter."

Peter Walls, investment trust analyst with stockbrokers Credit Lyonnais Laing, agrees. "Investment trusts, especially savings schemes and Peps, are far and away the best retail investment products on offer."

Low costs for investors are one of the sector's main selling points and Mr Walls believes they will remain a bargain.

"It is in the established investment trusts' interests to broaden the shareholder base, increase demand and prevent discounts from drifting outwards," he says. "With institutions accounting for 65 per cent of investment trust shareholders across the board, charges are likely to remain low over the long term."

Recent months have seen some unit trust companies reduce their own charges in a bid to attract new business, especially through Peps. But Mr Walls does not believe this will diminish the relative appeal of investment trusts long-term.

"Investment trust companies are prepared to subsidise their savings schemes and

Peps, but I do not see how the unit trust industry's structure allows it to reduce charges to the level of the lowest charging investment trusts," he says.

Even in the difficult markets of the past five years, investment trusts have been able to make steady progress in winning private investors' business. In the dark days just after the crash of October 1987, investment trust companies seized the initiative by pointing out to their trust holders, some of whom had difficulty selling their units, that investment trusts remained fully marketable throughout.

The introduction of savings schemes in 1990, the introduction of Peps and the extension of the rules since 1987, and the beginning of commission payments to intermediaries by some trusts, have all brought in more private shareholders.

Savings scheme contributions brought in £3.1 billion in the second quarter of 1992 compared to £2.2 billion in the same quarter of the previous year, says the AITC, and

there are now 57,250 active savers, investing an average of £75 per month each.

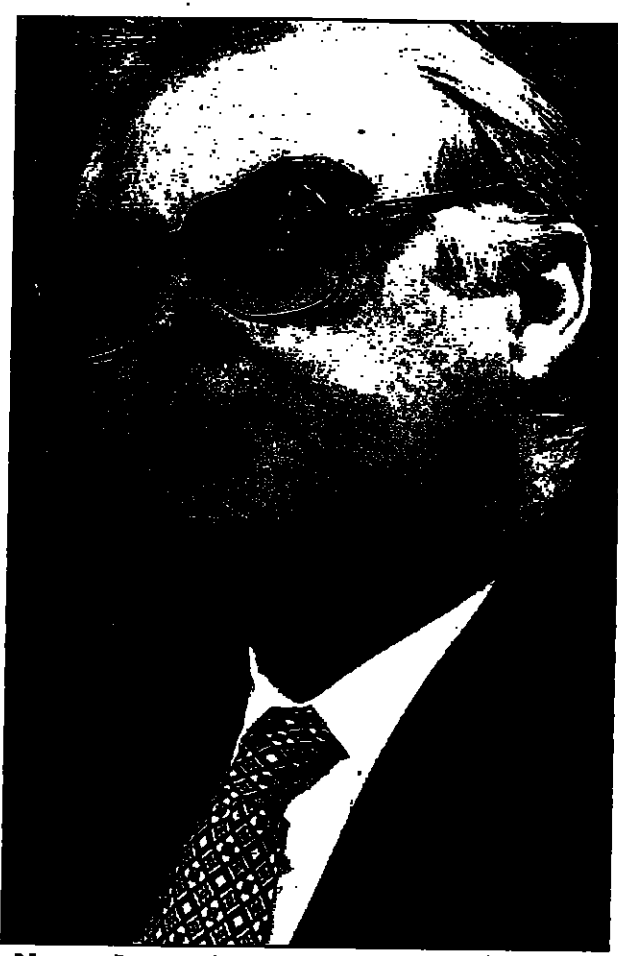
The AITC has set up an advisory service for intermediaries and investment trust companies which organise seminars, roadshows and other profile-raising activities, stressing low costs, superior performance and flexibility as reasons why investment trusts should be considered.

"We believe that investment trusts are the perfect way for an investor who has some building society savings to get a decent spread of exposure to the stockmarket," says Fiona Monro, of the AITC.

The recent spotlight on insurance companies' disappointing with-profits performances and high charges may benefit investment trusts.

The future development of investment trusts for the retail market seems likely to take two directions: sophisticated packaged products for professional advisers and their clients, and the continued emphasis on "plain vanilla" trusts, made accessible through savings schemes and Peps, as the investment for "everyman". But neither approach is likely to meet its full potential without a boost from the economy and the markets.

© The author is the editor of Moneywise.



Norman Lamont: industry hanging on his every word

## The Peps that add to the interest

The future could be equity plans as financial planning tools

Investment trusts received a boost in the 1992 Budget when the Personal Equity Plan (Pep) limit for tax-free income and gains was doubled to £6,000 a year in a qualifying trust. Christine Whelan writes. In closing a loophole that had led to a rush of investment trust launches, the extension of the rules gave investors more choice.

Qualifying trusts for Peps are those that remain at least 50 per cent invested in UK and European quoted stocks. Some trusts, including big names such as Foreign & Colonial and Alliance, have not opted for Pep status as it limits investment flexibility. Before next year's Budget the industry will lobby for all trusts to be fully Pep-eligible.

Along with those trusts that do not qualify for Pep status, low-yielders have also missed out on the party. This is because, for modest investors, the attraction of Peps lies in their ability to reduce income tax rather than capital gains.

On investment trust Peps, the minimum yield needed to ensure that the tax-free income is not wiped out by management charges ranges from 1.5 per cent for a 40 per cent taxpayer paying a 0.5 per cent annual charge, to 8.5 per cent for a 20 per cent taxpayer in a trust with a 1.5 per cent annual charge.

The board of TR Smaller Companies Investment Trust recently decided to attack the yield-charges problem by using some of its marketing budget to remove all the charges on the trust's Pep.

The campaign has been running for only two weeks but James de Saumarez, the managing director of Touche Remnant Investment Trust

Management, says: "It has certainly attracted a lot of interest as we believe this is the first investment trust Pep with no charges, and other low-yielding investment trusts will be looking closely at what we are doing."

Despite the recent disappointing track record of smaller companies Mr de Saumarez believes that the trust should appeal to investors who already hold a general, diversified trust, but not to beginners.

Promoters of investment trusts have so far used their new Pep flexibility to concentrate on year-end tax saving opportunities, but this is just the beginning.

The Association of Investment Trust Companies believes the future for the investment trust Pep is as a flexible, low-cost, tax-efficient financial planning tool. The Edinburgh-based trust management company Dundelin, for example, runs a personalised mortgage repayment quotation service for lenders, and has a link with Bank of Scotland on Pep-backed home loans. "The next step is a formal package, with the loan, the Pep and insurance sold together, but that is some way off," says Robin Pollok, Dundelin's marketing manager.

Despite Peps' low charges and superior performance, endowment policies are by far the most popular mortgage repayment method, although recent reports of bonus cuts have reduced their copper-bottomed appeal. "Investment trust Peps are not guaranteed either, but at least when markets are not doing well investors know their money is not being eaten up in charges," Mr Pollok says.

## Why thousands decide to split their stake

The mix-and-match method from the 1960s remains popular today



Peter Walls: a warning

Split-capital trusts are a refinement of the sector that even investment trust managers admit are fully understood by few industry specialists. Yet thousands of private investors have "split" in their portfolios, as many of the investment trusts launched to private investors in 1992, including Fleming's Income & Capital Trust and M&C's Recovery Investment Trust, have a split-capital structure, Christine Whelan writes.

At its simplest, this means the trust contains different classes of share, each of which has a different characteristic, such as offering high income but no capital growth, or vice versa. The individual elements of a split-capital trust can

therefore be highly tax-efficient, depending on whether an investor wants to limit exposure to income tax or capital gains. The different classes of share also carry varying degrees of risk.

Split-capital trusts were widely used in the high-tax 1960s, but there are now more trusts and more classes of share — zero-dividend preference shares first appeared in 1987, for example. More than 30 investment trust companies now have split-capital trusts in their stable, and investors can mix and match different classes of share in a portfolio as they wish.

"The split-capital structure is popular for new launches as these trusts tend to trade at a

premium to net asset value, and so are a good way of getting a new trust into the market-place," says Nigel Sidebottom, of the stockbroker Gerrard Vivian Gray. "Their tax-efficiency means that in a portfolio they can be used to make two and two equal five. Using a series of zero-dividend preference shares, for instance, financial advisers can put together a 'home-made' school fees funding plan offering lower costs and better returns than packaged plans, with as much security."

The analyst Peter Walls, of Credit Lyonnais Laing, agrees that split-capital trusts can be highly effective but gives a warning: "A package of split-capital shares can include

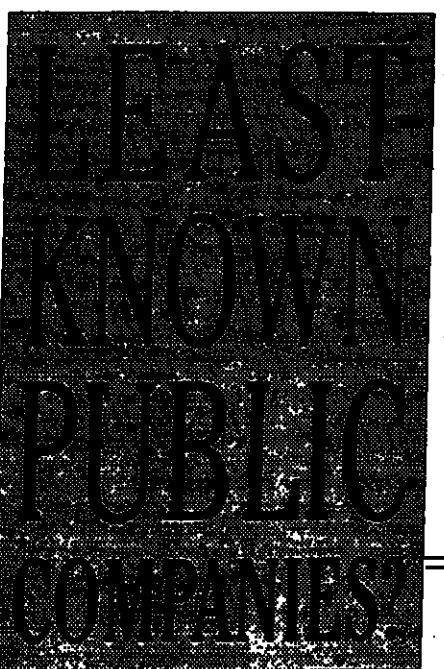
high-risk, highly geared equity shares, which I am not keen on as a retail product. Well-covered zero dividends, on the other hand, can be very useful for high-rate taxpayers, properly explained. But even then I do not agree with the view that all zeros are gilt-edged. Some of them are anything but, and may not deliver their promised return. That will inevitably lead to disillusionment."

Investors could also look at investment trust management services that include split-level trusts in their portfolios. Mr Sidebottom, for example, offers five portfolios ranging from cautious to speculative, all of which make some use of split-capital trusts. The latest report on the Low Risk Growth portfolio, launched in 1991, claims an annualised return of 19.5 per cent achieved mainly from the appreciation of zero-dividend preference shares.

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This 'advertisement' first appeared as editorial in the Sunday Telegraph Investment Trust Survey, 2nd August 1992.

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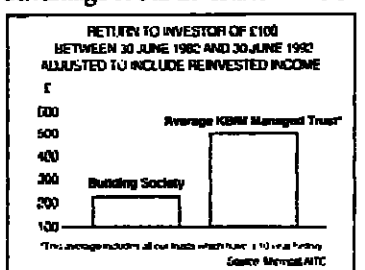
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# A guard against future shocks

The private investor is being encouraged to look at long-term financial plans, Jill Insley reports



Future plans: Fiona Munro says people are saving more

When the Association of Investment Trust Companies (AITC) was founded to solve industry problems 60 years ago, income tax was exactly the same in real terms as today, depression was causing mass unemployment and the stock market was suffering the aftermath of a financial scandal.

For Robert Maxwell, substitute Ivor Kreuger, a Swedish businessman whose companies — Kreuger and Toll and Swedish Match — lost share value of 82 per cent or £90 million the day before he died, and another £10 million on his death. In the days that followed, accountants Price Waterhouse revealed that Kreuger and Toll's balance sheet "grossly misrepresented" the true financial position, and books greatly exceeded the assets they were purported to represent or were entirely fictitious.

Such financial scandals had the same effects as those today, causing concern about accounting practice and investor protection.

But not everything in 1932 mirrors 1992. The country still spent a sizeable chunk of its income on domestic servants, the average house cost about £10,000 in today's terms, and most shares were owned by private investors.

Although the AITC has seen the savings ratio increase from 3.8 per cent to 10.3 per cent, and the number of investment trusts has grown from 230 to 265, the proportion of money invested in investment trusts has diminished compared to that invested in building societies or unit trusts.

In 1932 investment trusts had £300 million under management, compared to £78 million held by the Halifax Building Society and £200,000 invested in the only two unit trusts. Now the Halifax manages £58.8 billion and the 1,416 unit trusts now in existence hold £56 billion, but investment trusts manage £22 billion.

Fiona Munro, AITC spokesperson, attributes the change in investment habits partly to the development of the life and pensions market. She says that while in 1932 it was considered normal for an ordinary member of the public to hold a portfolio of shares, now it is deemed unusual. In 1932, 90 per cent of shares were owned by private investors, but in

1992 this figure has plummeted to 20 per cent.

Efforts have been made by various bodies including the AITC to alter this situation, but change is slow to come.

Funds under management in investment trusts were also depleted after the second world war when their overseas investments were stripped out by the government to pay off debts abroad.

And while unit trusts, life and pension funds and building societies have been able to advertise the benefits of investing in their products, investment trusts as public limited companies have been prohibited by the Companies Act from promoting their shares. But in 1984 Foreign & Colonial became the first trust manager to offer investment in a trust through a savings scheme. Such schemes can be promoted and so, in 1986, Foreign & Colonial also became the first investment trust manager to advertise.

The Budget of 1988 also provided a boost for the

growth of investment trusts when the Chancellor extended Personal Equity Plan investment rules to allow the greater of £540 or 25 per cent of the cash subscribed into the PEP to be used to buy investment trust shares. This limit was raised year by year until now an investor can put £6,000 in shares of investment trusts which invest a minimum of 50 per cent in European Community equities through a PEP.

As the methods of investing in trusts have changed over the years, so too have structure and investment strategy. Sixty years ago trusts were primarily invested in fixed interest stocks, debentures and bonds. Only 35 per cent was invested in shares. By 1983, 54 per cent was invested in shares, and by 1985 this figure had increased to 95 per cent.

Until the 1960s, investment trusts were very simple in structure, consisting purely of ordinary shares. But the introduction of capital gains tax encouraged the development

of a new form of trust — the so-called capital trust. The first simple forms of this trust offered two types of share — those which provided capital and those which provided income. Investors could buy either or both types, depending on which suited their investment purposes.

Zero dividend shares, which have a predetermined rate of capital growth, were introduced in more hybrid split capital trusts in the late 1980s.

Probably the most complex split capital trust now in existence offers several types of share — zero, income, capital and stepped preference shares which have a predetermined growth in both income and capital.

Investment trusts have always been regarded by financial institutions as a means of investing in geographical regions and sectors where those institutions do not have their own fund managers, but in the mid 1980s several trusts fell prey to institutions more interested in securing the immediate value of the trusts' underlying assets rather than their long term performance.

The shares of such trusts were then being traded at a value some 25 per cent less than the net asset value, making the trust vulnerable to takeover and break-up.

The average discount between share price and net asset value has narrowed to about 14 per cent now, making the trusts a much less attractive proposition for asset strippers.

One big change in public habits could help investment trust growth. Sixty years ago, several years of deflation meant those people who were employed effectively became richer, and could spend their way out of the depression. No such trend is evident today.

But Ms Munro says this is having a positive effect on growth of the financial services industry. She says: "People are saving more because they are concerned about the future, there is a demand for financial instruments that wasn't there in the 1930s."

"People are beginning to understand that the stock market is not just for speculation, and if you want a reasonable chance of capital growth and you can afford to take a long term view, then investment trusts are one of the very best ways of achieving that."

Scottish Value says investment success comes from thorough homework

## Secrets of a canny predator

Most investment trusts tend to be rather dull. So when a trust is described as a fox in a chicken coop and a piranha turning into a shark, it is worth taking a second look.

Scottish Value is a predator. It specialises in buying the shares of under-performing trusts which stand at a big discount to the value of that trust's underlying assets. Scottish Value trust then agitates for change until that discount is narrowed and Scottish Value can sell its holding at a profit.

In the year since Scottish Value emerged from the shell of former Glasgow stores group Bremner to July 31, the trust has increased net asset value by 31.1 per cent, while the total return on share price is 33.15 per cent.

Much of its net asset rise has been achieved through investment in three or four investment trusts, including Pacific Property Investment Trust and Ensign Trust. Both trusts have seen radical reformation since Scottish Value first showed interest in their performance.

Pacific Property underwent a reconstruction which narrowed its discount to net assets, while Scottish Value almost doubled its money on its 3.5 per cent stake in Ensign after the trust's major shareholder Merchant Navy Officer's Pension Fund succumbed to pressure to buy out minority share holdings.

Colin McLean, Scottish Value's manager, puts his team's investment success to date down to solid research — more perspiration than inspiration. "We just try to be a bit more thorough. It comes down to homework," he says.

He won Scottish Investor of the Year two years ago, and in the past five years he has been winner of another national newspaper's professional share tipping competition once, has been runner-up twice, while his selection has been bid for in the other two years. This year his selection —



Manager: Colin McLean

Great Western — has jumped in price by about 130 per cent and Mr McLean again leads the field.

Although Mr McLean says he prefers to work in co-operation with the trust managers rather than launching a full frontal assault, his career to date has not been free from turbulence. In the past 18 years he has abruptly departed from FS Assurance (now known as Britannia Life), Scottish Provident, and Templeton International, where he was managing director of European operations.

In 1989, while at Templeton, he launched an aggressive bid for his former employer, FS Assurance, in competition to a bid from Britannia Building Society. Mr McLean's bid failed, but the highly publicised acrimony caused by his criticism of the FS management and the society's offer to policyholders is believed to have contributed to his sudden departure from Templeton.

The revamping of Bremner was also far from smooth — though this is unsurprising given the notorious infighting of Bremner's shareholders.

Mr McLean was a director of the shell company for about a year before proceeding with plans to relaunch it as a trust, facing fierce opposition from some of the shareholders. Even though the plans to convert to a trust were approved, Mr McLean's re-election to the company's board was defeated on a show of

hands, although he was later reinstated on a poll vote.

In a last-ditch attempt to foil Bremner's conversion, a former director and the father of another former director obtained a court order to prevent the company's shares from trading on the Stock Exchange as Scottish Value trust. But Mr McLean's legal advisers succeeded in overturning the order, and shares began trading with a net asset value of 47p.

Now, he says: "We are looking for positions where we can bring some influence to bear. We aim to be proactive and push at an open door, not kick down a closed one."

Shareholders' funds of slightly more than £13 million

are fully invested in about 24 different stocks, and the trust is raising a further £14.2 million through a share placing and open offer. This will allow it to take advantage of more investment opportunities.

Over the year to July 31, Scottish Value has been the third best performing trust in the United Kingdom.

However, as Mr McLean points out, it is easier to make spectacular returns by thoroughly researching a limited number of shares rather than spreading investment over a larger number as a bigger trust would have to do. It is also easier to make large losses.

JILL INSLEY

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\*Source: Micropal (10 years to 1.9.89)

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# Taking stock of shares

The equity market will be the best bet, says Walter Riddell-Carre



Walter Riddell-Carre: equity investment will provide most gain in a global recession

The year so far has been fairly grim for equity investors. The biggest disappointment has been that the economic recession has lasted longer and been deeper than expected and signs of recovery have been delayed whether in the United States, Japan or the United Kingdom.

Although the eventual recovery may be more protracted in comparison to other economic cycles in recent history, the length of the downturn is likely to lead to a period of low inflation.

Under these conditions the non equity saver will continue to be rewarded with a high real return. However, greater gains will be achieved through equity investment as investors become increasingly comfortable with the low growth, low inflation environment.

At present there are many short-term uncertainties around the world affecting investor sentiment. These include the French vote on Maastricht, the US presidential election, the implications of dollar devaluation and the timing of the first easing in monetary policy by the Bundesbank.

However, investors always have to contend with uncertainty, and falling share prices can often create excellent buying opportunities for the long

term investor. For example, in Japan the sharp fall in share prices had taken the market back to a level where much of the negative economic and financial news was discounted and valuations on certain criteria were attractive both by historic comparisons and in relation to other markets.

Strong government action has now been announced, and the market has risen substantially. Following the measures, economic prospects have improved and there are now sound reasons for investing in Japan.

Similarly in the UK the expectation that confidence

and economic activity would rise following the election in April has evaporated and the stockmarket has fallen to a valuation where much of the economic woe is discounted. The relationship between the equity yield, which has risen naturally in a falling market, and the yield on gilts has reached a compelling level. The bond market will do well as interest rates fall but the equity market will do much better.

Investment policy in the UK should still be concentrated in defensive areas, particularly utilities where superior dividend prospects prevail. However, some commit-

ment to the more economically sensitive areas should be made. Building materials, engineering, hotels and leisure, paper and packaging are all sectors which will enjoy substantial operational gearing on any improvement in the economy. In addition, smaller companies appear irrationally friendly and good value.

The main constraint to economic demand and better stockmarkets, not only in the UK but throughout Europe, is the tight German monetary policy, which has kept interest rates persistently high.

Anticipated cuts have not yet materialised due to the lagging effect of German reunifi-

cation. However, a slowdown in the German economy is now leading to an easing of inflationary pressures. This will eventually result in a more relaxed monetary policy, although it would be wrong to anticipate a major change being made this year.

In Europe a "no" vote on Maastricht on September 20 is almost already reflected in the markets. As a result, France is a market to watch. It has fallen sharply over the summer and with inflation now under control, the economy will be a major beneficiary over lower interest rates.

In the dollar-based markets, currency movements are naturally important in assessing the total return of an investment. The dollar is likely to remain weak until after the presidential election in November, but an eventual recovery is expected once interest rate differentials narrow with European rates.

Meanwhile, the American market appears fully valued though longer term a recovery in earnings will bring the rating down to a reasonable level. The Pacific markets and Mexico are preferred. Strong economic growth will be sustained due to high intra regional trade and economic and political reform.

In summary, opportunities for long term capital and income growth still exist and investment trusts offer the ideal vehicle for private investors seeking to spread the risk while maximising the potential return.

●The author is director and investment controller of Edinburgh Fund Managers.

# Well worth the wait

Buying up second-hand life insurance endowment policies is a new road for trust investors

OF ALL the investment trusts launched in the past few years, few could claim to offer something truly new. Kleinwort Benson's Endowment Policy Trust is an exception.

The trust is the first to specialise in the purchase of second-hand life insurance endowment policies aiming to make substantial returns when the policies mature.

Life insurance companies have traditionally paid poor early surrender values, including little or none of the investment returns they have earned with investors' money. By buying these policies cheaply and maintaining payments until the maturity date, Kleinwort Benson will be able to maximise their returns at maturity. It has attracted investment of £22.5 million to purchase 3,000 to 4,000 policies at an average cost of £5,000 to £10,000. Most of the policies will have ten or 11 years left to run, and will mature before the trust's winding up in 2003.

About 30 per cent of the money will be invested in Treasury Bills, short-dated fixed interest stocks and shorter term policies. Income and capital from these will be used to pay premiums for ongoing policies and to buy further policies for the trust.

ORDINARY shares are available, which the company has likened to the aero-dividend preference shares of split capital trusts. The shares should rise steadily in value each year, as the value of the trust's policies increases.

Kleinwort Benson estimates that, assuming annual and final bonus rates on endowments stay the same, the trust should provide a yield of 12.7 per cent for original investors. However, some life insurance company providers of endowments have cut their bonus rates in the wake of poor stock market performance, and many more have indicated that they will follow suit.

Kleinwort Benson has anticipated this move — it calculates a still healthy return of 10.2 per cent if bonuses are cut by a pessimistically high 20 per cent. Its share price has maintained its issue price of 100p.

Kleinwort Benson intends to purchase about 80 per cent of the policies in the first year of the trust's life. This seems a

lot of policies to find in a market which has a large and increasing number of sales specialists, such as policy auctioneers Foster & Cranfield.

Guy Enriquez, director of Foster & Cranfield, says: "There is more demand for policies with a shorter outstanding term, but with years to run as well."

Ben Siddons, chairman of Kleinwort Benson Investment Trust Management, is confident that the company will obtain a sufficient share of the £1 billion worth of endowments surrendered early every year. It will offer 7.7 per cent of the value of a maturing policy.

JILL INSLEY

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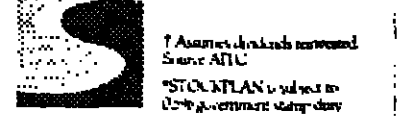
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# Adventure can be too risky

Timing is important when investing in unquoted firms

Robert Fleming and Morgan Grenfell, and in life insurance companies such as Target and General Portfolio.

At first it scored notable successes — for example when the TSB took over Target, Ensign received £330 million for a stake which it had valued at £11 million.

But the crash in October 1987 damaged the prospects of many of Ensign's financial investments. Worse still, the increasing difficulty of bring-

ing new issues to the stock market made it hard for Ensign to realise its assets. Ensign, 80 per cent of whose shares were owned by the Merchant Navy Officers Pension Fund (MNOFF), began to perform less well than other trusts, but only modestly. Small companies were early casualties of the recession and this led in 1990 to a collapse in the value of Ensign's net assets. The MNOFF was quick to act,

sacking Ensign-owned Argosy Asset Management as its investment manager and proposing to liquidate the trust. The loss of the contract to manage MNOFF's £1.5 billion damaged the value of Ensign itself. Continuing losses led to large write-offs, a further collapse in its share price and a widening of the discount to net asset value.

MNOFF dropped its plans for a liquidation but ordered a change in Ensign's invest-

ment policy. Pressure from the trust's minority shareholders eventually prompted MNOFF to mop up the minority with an offer at the turn of the year.

Drayton Consolidated, a trust managed by Invesco MIM, encountered similar problems with its unquoted portfolio. This culminated earlier this year with the collapse of Alma, the Scottish sweets company which made Hacks and Victory-V.

Drayton called in investment trust experts from County Natwest Wood Mackenzie to devise a way of realising Drayton's remaining value. The plans are expected to be announced shortly.

# Current worldwide outlook fuels growth prospects for Monks Investment Trust.

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|--------------------|-------------------|--------|-----------|-------|-------------------|
| UK                 | N. and C. America | Europe | S.E. Asia | Japan | Net liquid assets |
| 34.1%              | 8.8%              | 28.8%  | 16.1%     | 4.6%  | 7.6%              |

Source: Annual Report 1992

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To: Lindsey Greig, Baillie Gifford Savings Management Ltd., 1 Rutland Court, Edinburgh EH3 8EY. Tel: 031 222 4244. Fax: 031 222 4299.

Please send me details of how to invest and the Annual Report for The Monks Investment Trust. (The Annual Report gives performance figures for each year since 1982).

Mr/Mrs/Miss \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Baillie Gifford

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# ES UNIFORME

|  |                            | Inc    | Offer  | Why   | %     |
|--|----------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
|  | Global Tech                | 97.10  | 83.33  | +2.08 | ...   |
|  | Internet Growth            | 13.35  | 75.37  | +2.76 | 10.70 |
|  | Online Monthly             | 42.40  | 45.77  | +0.41 | 7.00  |
|  | Online Growth              | 42.40  | 52.84  | +2.04 | ...   |
|  | Online Cdn                 | 51.03  | 56.33  | +0.79 | ...   |
|  | Smaller Cdn                | 52.23  | 56.15  | +0.61 | ...   |
|  | Special Cdn                | 57.42  | 72.99  | +1.56 | 27.5  |
|  | Wld Spec Sls               | 70.20  | 73.01  | +0.42 | ...   |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 35.57  | 39.07  | +0.43 | ...   |
| STANDARD LIFE TRUST                        |                            |        |        |       |       |
| MANAGEMENT LTD                             |                            |        |        |       |       |
| 1 George St, Edinburgh EC2 EC2             |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | 8000 PTT                   | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...   |
|  | Managed                    | 33.20  | 35.28  | +0.19 | 3.23  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 45.30  | 48.14  | +0.38 | 0.70  |
|  | UK Reg General             | 43.87  | 46.42  | +0.49 | 3.39  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 33.95  | 36.00  | +0.35 | 1.58  |
|  | Barropan Acc               | 37.77  | 39.83  | +0.33 | 0.87  |
|  | Per Rent Acc               | 24.78  | 26.06  | +0.62 | 0.21  |
|  | GIR Nat Ins Inc            | 34.84  | 36.50  | +0.10 | 7.11  |
|  | N American Cdn             | 31.41  | 33.28  | +0.35 | 1.12  |
|  | CIS Life Cdn Acc           | 19.00  | 20.00  | +0.50 | 1.10  |
|  | US St 120th Inc            | 22.30  | 23.31  | +0.32 | 5.88  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 30.08  | 31.90  | +0.36 | 5.88  |
|  | US 1st Cdn Acc             | 22.00  | 24.40  | +0.70 | 4.49  |
|  | US 1st Cdn Acc             | 28.70  | 31.90  | +0.70 | 4.99  |
| STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST                   |                            |        |        |       |       |
| MANAGERS                                   |                            |        |        |       |       |
| 45 Charlotte St, Edinburgh                 |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | 611 226 3371               | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...   |
|  | America                    | 245.60 | 260.90 | +0.10 | 0.92  |
|  | British                    | 724.30 | 766.30 | +0.30 | 7.02  |
|  | Managed                    | 317.20 | 357.20 | +0.30 | 7.02  |
|  | Japan                      | 82.30  | 85.67  | +0.18 | ...   |
|  | New Pacific                | 19.37  | 19.83  | +0.06 | 1.27  |
|  | United Cdn                 | 8.87   | 9.47   | +0.12 | ...   |
|  | Investing Reg              | 123.03 | 127.84 | +0.15 | 1.84  |
|  | 1977 US                    | 122.03 | 124.65 | +0.06 | 2.28  |
|  | Salmon FFF                 | 280.80 | 283.23 | +0.63 | ...   |
| SUN ALLIANCE                               |                            |        |        |       |       |
| 4, Brompton Rd, House, Warr.               |                            |        |        |       |       |
| EC17 2ZTAN Dealing: EC17 2ZTAN             |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | Equity Acc                 | 357.50 | 367.00 | +0.10 | 3.31  |
|  | N American Acc             | 74.30  | 75.40  | +0.08 | 0.70  |
|  | Per Rent Acc               | 70.17  | 61.40  | -1.03 | 4.51  |
|  | Wld Spec                   | 42.81  | 45.06  | +0.57 | 0.87  |
|  | European                   | 62.81  | 67.18  | +0.34 | 1.23  |
|  | Equity Income              | 61.02  | 66.32  | +0.26 | 3.51  |
| SUN LIFE OF CANADA                         |                            |        |        |       |       |
| Burlington, Burlington, House EC21 2ZTAN   |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | Dealing: EC24 54114        | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...   |
|  | America                    | 24.62  | 24.79  | +0.24 | 0.53  |
|  | Managed Assets             | 94.80  | 101.40 | +0.68 | 0.69  |
|  | US Income                  | 21.53  | 22.32  | +0.31 | 1.48  |
|  | US Growth                  | 28.19  | 31.20  | +0.43 | 1.64  |
|  | Wld Spec                   | 21.30  | 23.21  | +0.60 | 1.13  |
| THE UNIT TRUSTS LTD                        |                            |        |        |       |       |
| Chester, Penn, Australia, House SP14 1RE   |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | 6254 346794                | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...   |
|  | America                    | 139.60 | 144.54 | +2.21 | 0.06  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 104.30 | 105.12 | +0.38 | 0.37  |
|  | British Cdn                | 48.54  | 52.75  | +0.38 | 0.87  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 78.58  | 82.60  | +0.64 | 0.57  |
|  | European                   | 10.72  | 11.40  | +0.10 | 0.89  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 74.70  | 76.47  | +0.32 | 0.81  |
|  | India Inc                  | 138.72 | 147.57 | +0.57 | 1.17  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 237.78 | 241.65 | +2.04 | 4.14  |
|  | General Unit               | 233.18 | 234.60 | +0.60 | 4.08  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 489.02 | 493.00 | +0.78 | 4.08  |
|  | Income                     | 302.41 | 297.88 | -1.24 | 3.28  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 698.11 | 715.11 | +2.48 | 1.85  |
|  | International              | 253.08 | 257.31 | +1.11 | 1.17  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 432.11 | 437.72 | +0.76 | 1.77  |
|  | Fixed                      | 213.94 | 226.77 | +0.68 | 4.28  |
|  | Preferential               | 225.19 | 207.62 | -0.80 | 3.28  |
|  | Private                    | 40.81  | 41.73  | +0.13 | 0.40  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 91.15  | 94.95  | +0.66 | 0.40  |
|  | Net Resources              | 68.00  | 72.85  | +0.68 | 0.40  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 68.11  | 72.45  | +0.75 | 0.40  |
|  | Relevant Opts              | 68.00  | 72.45  | +1.27 | 1.04  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 86.07  | 91.59  | +0.31 | 0.40  |
| TARGENT TRUST MANAGERS                     |                            |        |        |       |       |
| The Brompton, 44 High St, Aylesbury, Bucks |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | EC26 1RE, EC26 1RE         | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...   |
|  | America                    | 77.61  | 83.46  | +0.58 | 0.65  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 37.79  | 40.49  | +0.10 | 0.47  |
|  | Australia                  | 134.40 | 140.30 | +1.80 | 7.00  |
|  | Equity                     | 111.60 | 114.30 | +0.57 | 0.73  |
|  | British                    | 24.30  | 25.35  | +0.85 | 3.22  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 68.11  | 68.30  | +0.15 | 1.11  |
|  | Canada                     | 62.35  | 64.38  | +0.25 | 1.41  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 31.80  | 34.10  | +0.21 | 1.56  |
|  | Gold Cdn Inc               | 61.40  | 64.85  | +0.32 | 1.36  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 84.62  | 87.00  | +0.80 | 4.00  |
|  | Income                     | 84.62  | 87.00  | +0.80 | 4.00  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 92.45  | 95.77  | +0.53 | 1.54  |
|  | Japan                      | 18.88  | 20.30  | +1.11 | 6.06  |
|  | Preferences                | 77.41  | 77.41  | 0.00  | ...   |
|  | US Capital                 | 72.40  | 72.40  | 0.00  | ...   |
|  | Worldwide Inc              | 149.40 | 159.00 | +0.90 | 4.02  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 99.95  | 105.99 | +0.99 | 4.98  |
| THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD                 |                            |        |        |       |       |
| 33 Canalside St, London W1R 7LZ            |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | EC1R 4BZ Dealing: EC1R 4BZ | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...   |
|  | Amer East Cdn              | 63.46  | 67.01  | 3.05  | ...   |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 65.45  | 68.81  | +3.17 | ...   |
|  | Cdn                        | 51.59  | 51.59  | +0.00 | 0.00  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 59.39  | 59.39  | +0.00 | 0.00  |
|  | European Opts              | 48.21  | 51.83  | +0.25 | ...   |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 48.21  | 51.83  | +0.25 | ...   |
|  | Per Rent Opts              | 56.53  | 56.56  | +0.03 | 0.04  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 56.78  | 56.78  | +0.00 | 0.04  |
|  | Gold/Ind. Ins              | 37.29  | 38.10  | +0.76 | ...   |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 38.68  | 39.65  | +0.73 | ...   |
|  | Japan                      | 47.62  | 50.69  | +0.55 | ...   |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 45.05  | 46.99  | +0.55 | ...   |
|  | Life Income                | 44.11  | 44.91  | +0.15 | 1.11  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 43.90  | 44.08  | +0.16 | 1.11  |
|  | Ordnance Income            | 21.21  | 21.21  | +0.00 | 0.00  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 34.16  | 35.57  | +0.80 | 3.10  |
|  | Tiger                      | 131.00 | 145.17 | +0.67 | 1.62  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 142.96 | 151.85 | +0.71 | 1.62  |
|  | US Small Cdn               | 53.86  | 54.19  | +0.67 | 1.62  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 26.31  | 26.35  | +0.07 | 3.00  |
| UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS               |                            |        |        |       |       |
| United Hse, 252 Bedford Rd, London E7      |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | 611 634 1544               | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...   |
|  | United Charities           | 171.80 | 183.20 | +2.30 | 5.67  |
| WAVEKLEY UNIT TRUST                        |                            |        |        |       |       |
| MANAGEMENT LTD                             |                            |        |        |       |       |
| 11 Canalside St, Edinburgh EC2 4DL         |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | 611 225 181                | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...   |
|  | Australian Gold            | 7.98   | 8.48   | +0.01 | 0.50  |
|  | -40- Acc                   | 23.78  | 24.23  | +0.05 | 0.60  |
|  | Canadian Cdn               | 25.42  | 27.04  | +0.16 | 0.18  |
|  | Global Bond                | 61.024 | 61.072 | +0.02 | 7.97  |
|  | Penny Share                | 16.35  | 17.29  | +0.36 | 1.50  |
| WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST                    |                            |        |        |       |       |
| MANAGERS                                   |                            |        |        |       |       |
| 2 Essex Lane, London EC2Y 6BE              |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | 611 482 3113               | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...   |
|  | Cy Reserve                 | 54.44  | 54.44  | +0.00 | 0.00  |
|  | GIR Growth                 | 40.94  | 40.94  | +0.00 | 0.00  |
|  | GIR Income                 | 40.24  | 40.20  | -0.05 | 0.47  |
|  | Harry Bond Inc             | 68.70  | 68.20  | -0.50 | 1.90  |
|  | US Growth Inc              | 30.59  | 30.713 | +0.02 | 0.11  |
|  | Challenger                 | 72.14  | 72.81  | +0.70 | ...   |
| WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS               |                            |        |        |       |       |
| LTD  |                            |        |        |       |       |
| 1 White Oak Square, Swansley EME TAG       |                            |        |        |       |       |
|  | 6785 38044                 | ...    | ...    | ...   | ...   |
|  | Investment Ltd             | 51.25  | 54.62  | +0.02 | 3.15  |
| Source: Financial                          |                            |        |        |       |       |
| - Value expressed as CAR Compound          |                            |        |        |       |       |
| Annual Return; + Ex dividend; * Middle     |                            |        |        |       |       |
| Value                                      |                            |        |        |       |       |

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

|                           |                    |                                       |  |                         |  |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| <b>New York (midday):</b> |                    | <b>FTSE Euro 100:</b> 1033.57 (+5.98) |  | <b>FTSE 100</b>         |  |
| Dow Jones                 | 3316.78 (+11.62)   | <b>Brussels:</b>                      |  | Previous open interest  |  |
| S&P Composite             | 420.46 (+0.51)     | <b>General</b>                        |  | <b>Three Month ST</b>   |  |
| Nikkei                    |                    | <b>Paris: CAC</b>                     |  | Previous open interest  |  |
| Tokyo Atyc                | 18107.69 (-800.78) | <b>Zurich: SKA Gen</b>                |  | <b>Three Mth Euro</b>   |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
| <b>Hong Kong:</b>         |                    | <b>London:</b>                        |  | <b>Three Mth Euro</b>   |  |
| Hang Seng                 | 5537.29 (-94.26)   | <b>FT A All-Share</b>                 |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    | <b>FT 500</b>                         |  | <b>US Treasury Bond</b> |  |
| <b>Australia:</b>         |                    | <b>FT Gold Mines</b>                  |  | Previous open interest  |  |
| CBS Tendency              | 109.82 (+0.9)      | <b>FT Interest</b>                    |  | <b>Long Gilt</b>        |  |
| <b>Sydney: AO</b>         | 1501.0 (+17.2)     | <b>FT Govt Secs</b>                   |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    | <b>Bargains</b>                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
| <b>Frankfurt:</b>         |                    | <b>SEAO Volume</b>                    |  | Previous open interest  |  |
| DAX                       | 1527.80 (+0.8)     | <b>USM (Daxster)</b>                  |  | <b>Japanese Govt</b>    |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | Previous open interest  |  |
|                           |                    |                                       |  | <b>Three Month Euro</b> |  |

100-443887-100

|           | Setles | Oct | Dec | Mar | Set | Dec | Mar |
|-----------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (270) Tm  | 280    | 12  | 26  | 33  | 5   | 7   | 12  |
| (280) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (290) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (300) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (310) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (320) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (330) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (340) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (350) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (360) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (370) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (380) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (390) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (400) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (410) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (420) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (430) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (440) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (450) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (460) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (470) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (480) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (490) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (500) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (510) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (520) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (530) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (540) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (550) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (560) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (570) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (580) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (590) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (600) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (610) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (620) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (630) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (640) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (650) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (660) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (670) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (680) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (690) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (700) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (710) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (720) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (730) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (740) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (750) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (760) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (770) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (780) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (790) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (800) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (810) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (820) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (830) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (840) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (850) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (860) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (870) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (880) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (890) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (900) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (910) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (920) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (930) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (940) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (950) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (960) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (970) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (980) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (990) Tm  | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |
| (1000) Tm | 240    | 15  | 15  | 22  | 11  | 7   | 21  |

REPORT: London coffee and cocoa both dropped right at the close with markets somewhat buoyed by the rumor that after what had been said as a bordering day, London experienced the more dramatic plunge. Evenly then the market saw fresh buying, supporting prices as traders slowly convincing themselves that the futures spec maintained as a quality contract.

**LONDON FOX COCOA**

|     |         |        |         |
|-----|---------|--------|---------|
| Dec | 592-590 | Dec    | 731-730 |
| Dec | 621-620 | Mar    | 759-758 |
| Dec | 651-650 | Mar    | 789-788 |
| May | 669-668 | Jul    | 798-797 |
| Jul | 588-585 |        |         |
| Dec | 705-702 | Volume | 4000    |

**ROBUSTA COFFEE (C)**

|     |         |        |         |
|-----|---------|--------|---------|
| Dec | 754-751 | May    | 800-799 |
| Nov | 769-765 | Jul    | 819-815 |
| Dec | 789-786 | Volume | 1515    |
| Mar | 791-790 | Volume | 1816    |

**RAW SUGAR (FOB)**

|             |            |        |     |
|-------------|------------|--------|-----|
| C Cancellor | 224-23     | May    | unq |
| Dec         | 214-13-13  | Oct    | unq |
| Dec         | 205-2-93-6 | Dec    | unq |
| Dec         | 21-2       | Volume | 141 |

**WHITE SUGAR (FOB)**

|         |           |           |           |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Resters | May       | 266-5-6-0 |           |
| Dec     | 281-3     | Aug       | 269-1-6-0 |
| Oct     | 260-5-6-0 | Nov       | 260-1-9-0 |
| Dec     | 260-5-9-0 | Dec       | 260-0-9-0 |
| Mar     | 264-5-6-0 | Volume    | 1903      |

**MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION**

Average livestock prices at representative markets on September 11

| Grigsby   | Grigsby | Cattle |
|-----------|---------|--------|
| (b-1)     | 78-99   | 70-89  |
| (b-2)     | -0-79   | -10-5  |
| Eng/Walsh | 78-99   | 70-76  |
| (b-1)     | -0-79   | -10-5  |
| (b-2)     | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-3)     | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-4)     | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-5)     | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-6)     | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-7)     | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-8)     | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-9)     | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-10)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-11)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-12)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-13)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-14)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-15)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-16)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-17)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-18)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-19)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-20)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-21)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-22)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-23)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-24)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-25)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-26)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-27)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-28)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-29)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-30)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-31)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-32)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-33)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-34)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-35)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-36)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-37)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-38)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-39)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-40)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-41)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-42)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-43)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-44)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-45)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-46)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-47)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-48)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-49)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-50)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-51)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-52)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-53)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-54)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-55)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-56)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-57)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-58)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-59)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-60)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-61)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-62)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-63)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-64)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-65)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-66)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-67)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-68)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-69)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-70)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-71)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-72)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-73)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-74)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-75)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-76)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-77)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-78)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-79)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-80)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-81)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-82)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-83)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-84)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-85)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-86)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-87)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-88)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-89)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-90)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-91)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-92)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-93)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-94)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-95)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-96)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-97)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-98)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-99)    | -1-14   | -26-0  |
| (b-100)   | -1-14   | -26-0  |

**LONDON MEAT FUTURES**

Live Pigs (cwt)

|     |      |       |     |      |       |
|-----|------|-------|-----|------|-------|
| Set | Open | Close | Nov | Open | Close |
| Set | 104  | 106.5 | Nov | 104  | 104.5 |

**GRAND LONDON WHEAT (close 5/8)**

|     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
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| Set | Nov | May |
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| Set | Nov | May |
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| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov | May |
| Set | Nov |     |

NAME (PRINTED): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

|  |                                    | Inc    | Offer  | Why   | %     |
|--|------------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
|  | Global Tech                        | 97.10  | 83.33  | +2.08 | ...   |
|  | Internet Growth                    | 13.35  | 75.37  | +2.76 | 10.70 |
|  | Online Monthly                     | 42.40  | 45.77  | +0.41 | 7.00  |
|  | Online Growth                      | 42.40  | 52.84  | +2.04 | ...   |
|  | Online Cdn                         | 51.03  | 56.33  | +0.79 | ...   |
|  | Smaller Cdn                        | 52.23  | 56.15  | +0.61 | ...   |
|  | Special Cdn                        | 57.42  | 72.99  | +1.56 | 27.5  |
|  | Wld Spec Sls                       | 70.20  | 73.01  | +0.42 | ...   |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 35.57  | 39.07  | +0.43 | ...   |
| STANDARD LIFE TRUST                      |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| MANAGEMENT LTD                           |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| 1 George St, Edinburgh EC2 EC2           |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | 8090 FTT                           |        |        |       |       |
|  | Managed                            | 33.20  | 35.28  | +0.19 | 3.23  |
|  | UK Acc                             | 45.30  | 48.14  | +0.38 | 0.70  |
|  | UK Reg General                     | 43.87  | 46.42  | +0.49 | 3.39  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 33.95  | 36.06  | +0.35 | 1.58  |
|  | Barropan Acc                       | 37.77  | 39.83  | +0.33 | 0.87  |
|  | Per Rent Acc                       | 24.78  | 26.06  | +0.62 | 0.21  |
|  | GIR Nat Ins Inc                    | 34.84  | 36.50  | +0.10 | 7.10  |
|  | N American Acc                     | 31.41  | 33.28  | +0.35 | 1.12  |
|  | CIS Life Cdn Acc                   | 19.00  | 20.00  | +0.50 | 1.10  |
|  | US Ss 120th Inc                    | 22.00  | 23.00  | +0.50 | 5.88  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 30.00  | 31.00  | +0.36 | 5.88  |
|  | US 1st Cdn Acc                     | 22.00  | 24.40  | +0.70 | 4.40  |
|  | US 1st Cdn Acc                     | 28.00  | 31.00  | +0.70 | 4.99  |
| STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST                 |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| MANAGERS                                 |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| 45 Charlotte St, Edinburgh               |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | 911 226 3371                       |        |        |       |       |
|  | América                            | 24.60  | 26.90  | +0.10 | 0.92  |
|  | British                            | 72.50  | 76.00  | +0.30 | 7.02  |
|  | Managed                            | 31.70  | 35.20  | +0.35 | ...   |
|  | Japan                              | 82.30  | 85.65  | +0.18 | ...   |
|  | New Pacific                        | 37.35  | 39.50  | +0.60 | 1.77  |
|  | United Cdn                         | 38.47  | 40.47  | +0.12 | ...   |
|  | Investing Reg                      | 123.03 | 127.84 | +0.15 | 1.84  |
|  | 1973 FTT                           | 122.03 | 124.65 | +0.60 | 2.28  |
|  | Stewart FTT                        | 28.00  | 30.25  | +0.50 | ...   |
| SUN ALLIANCE                             |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| 45 Brompton Rd, House, Wm.               |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| EC17 2ZTAN Dealing: EC17 2ZTAN           |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | Equity Acc                         | 357.50 | 60.00  | -1.00 | 3.31  |
|  | N American Acc                     | 74.30  | 61.40  | -0.08 | 0.70  |
|  | Per Rent Acc                       | 70.17  | 61.40  | -0.13 | 0.43  |
|  | Wld Spec                           | 42.81  | 39.00  | -0.57 | 0.87  |
|  | Stewart                            | 62.81  | 67.18  | +0.34 | 1.23  |
|  | Equity Income                      | 61.02  | 66.32  | +0.26 | 3.51  |
| SUN LIFE OF CANADA                       |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| Burlington, Burlington, House EC21 2ZTAN |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | Dealing: EC24 54114                |        |        |       |       |
|  | América                            | 24.60  | 26.90  | +0.10 | 0.92  |
|  | Managed                            | 31.70  | 35.20  | +0.35 | ...   |
|  | UK Income                          | 21.50  | 23.20  | +0.11 | 1.48  |
|  | UK Growth                          | 28.10  | 31.20  | +0.43 | 1.64  |
|  | Wld Spec                           | 21.50  | 23.20  | +0.11 | 1.48  |
| THE UNIT TRUSTS LTD                      |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| Chester, Penn, Australia, House SP14 1RE |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | EC24 546794                        |        |        |       |       |
|  | América                            | 139.60 | 144.50 | +2.20 | 0.06  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 100.30 | 105.10 | +2.00 | 0.06  |
|  | British Cdn                        | 48.54  | 52.75  | +0.38 | 3.37  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 78.58  | 82.40  | +0.64 | 5.27  |
|  | European                           | 100.72 | 105.10 | +2.00 | 0.06  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 74.70  | 79.47  | +0.73 | 2.81  |
|  | India Inc                          | 138.72 | 147.57 | +1.57 | 0.14  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 217.78 | 218.65 | +0.04 | 4.14  |
|  | General Unit                       | 233.18 | 233.60 | +0.40 | 4.08  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 489.02 | 490.00 | +0.78 | 4.08  |
|  | Income                             | 302.41 | 297.88 | -1.24 | 3.28  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 698.11 | 715.11 | +2.48 | 1.85  |
|  | International                      | 253.08 | 257.31 | +1.11 | 1.77  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 432.11 | 437.72 | +2.46 | 1.77  |
|  | Fixed                              | 213.94 | 226.77 | +0.68 | 4.28  |
|  | Preventer Income                   | 40.81  | 41.72  | +0.13 | 0.40  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 91.15  | 94.95  | +0.56 | 0.40  |
|  | Net Resources                      | 68.00  | 72.35  | +0.68 | 0.40  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 68.11  | 72.45  | +0.75 | 0.40  |
|  | Relevant Acc                       | 68.00  | 72.35  | +1.27 | 1.04  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 86.07  | 91.50  | +0.31 | 2.04  |
| TARGENT TRUST MANAGERS                   |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| The Brompton, 44 High St, Ayrshire, Bndr |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | EC17 2ZTAN Dealing: EC17 2ZTAN     |        |        |       |       |
|  | América                            | 24.60  | 26.90  | +0.10 | 0.92  |
|  | British                            | 72.50  | 76.00  | +0.30 | 7.02  |
|  | Managed                            | 31.70  | 35.20  | +0.35 | ...   |
|  | Japan                              | 82.30  | 85.65  | +0.18 | ...   |
|  | New Pacific                        | 37.35  | 39.50  | +0.60 | 1.77  |
|  | United Cdn                         | 38.47  | 40.47  | +0.12 | ...   |
|  | Investing Reg                      | 123.03 | 127.84 | +0.15 | 1.84  |
|  | 1973 FTT                           | 122.03 | 124.65 | +0.60 | 2.28  |
|  | Stewart FTT                        | 28.00  | 30.25  | +0.50 | ...   |
| THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD               |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| 33 Cornhill St, London W1R 7JZ           |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | 971 493 7242 Dealing: 971 493 8343 |        |        |       |       |
|  | América                            | 13.35  | 75.37  | +2.76 | 10.70 |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 65.45  | 68.81  | +3.17 | ...   |
|  | Cdn                                | 51.03  | 56.33  | +0.05 | 10.00 |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 39.39  | 39.39  | +0.07 | 10.00 |
|  | European Opps                      | 48.23  | 51.83  | +0.25 | ...   |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 36.31  | 31.83  | +0.25 | ...   |
|  | Per Rent Acc                       | 56.53  | 50.96  | +0.32 | 0.94  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 76.78  | 70.51  | +0.68 | 0.94  |
|  | Golf/Ins. Ins                      | 37.29  | 38.10  | +0.76 | ...   |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 38.68  | 39.69  | +0.75 | ...   |
|  | Japan                              | 47.62  | 50.69  | +0.55 | ...   |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 45.05  | 50.69  | +0.55 | ...   |
|  | Life Insurance                     | 44.11  | 44.91  | +0.15 | 1.11  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 43.90  | 44.08  | +0.16 | 1.11  |
|  | Ordnance Income                    | 21.21  | 21.25  | +0.05 | 1.00  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 34.16  | 35.57  | +0.60 | 3.10  |
|  | Tiger                              | 13.35  | 145.17 | +0.67 | 1.62  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 142.36 | 151.85 | +0.71 | 1.62  |
|  | US Smallcap Inc                    | 53.86  | 54.19  | +0.67 | 1.62  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 26.31  | 26.35  | +0.07 | 3.00  |
| UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS             |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| United Hse, 252 Bedford Rd, London E7.   |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | 911 634 1544                       |        |        |       |       |
|  | United Charities                   | 171.80 | 183.20 | +2.30 | 3.56  |
| WAVEKLEY UNIT TRUST                      |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| MANAGEMENT LTD                           |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| 11 Charlotte St, Edinburgh EC2 4DL       |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | 931 225 1851                       |        |        |       |       |
|  | Australian Gold                    | 7.98   | 6.48   | +0.01 | 0.50  |
|  | -40- Acc                           | 23.78  | 24.23  | +0.05 | 0.60  |
|  | Canadian Cdn                       | 28.42  | 27.04  | -0.16 | 0.10  |
|  | Global Bond                        | 81.024 | 81.072 | +0.05 | 7.97  |
|  | Penny Share                        | 16.35  | 17.29  | +0.36 | 3.50  |
| WREIGHTINGDALE UNIT TRUST                |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| MANAGERS                                 |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| 2 Essex Lane, London EC2Y 6BE            |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | 971 482 3113                       |        |        |       |       |
|  | Cit Reserve                        | 54.44  | 54.44  | +0.07 | 0.80  |
|  | GIR Growth                         | 40.04  | 40.04  | +0.05 | 0.47  |
|  | GIR Income                         | 40.24  | 40.20  | -0.05 | 0.47  |
|  | Emerg Res Dev                      | 46.70  | 46.20  | -0.05 | 1.00  |
|  | US Growth Inc                      | 30.59  | 30.713 | +0.02 | 1.15  |
|  | Challenger                         | 72.14  | 72.81  | +0.70 | ...   |
| WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS             |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| LTD                                      |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| 1 White Oak Square, Swansley EME TAG.    |                                    |        |        |       |       |
|  | 9785 380446                        |        |        |       |       |
|  | Investment Ltd                     | 51.25  | 54.62  | +0.02 | 3.15  |
| Source: Financial                        |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| - Inc: expressed as CAR Compound         |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| Annual Return; + Ex dividend; * Middle   |                                    |        |        |       |       |
| Index                                    |                                    |        |        |       |       |

100-443887-100

| Close           | 1 month                          | 3 month                          |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 3.1245-1.1282   | 1 <sup>st</sup> -par             | 1 <sup>st</sup> -par             |
| 10.7260-1.0728  | 5 <sup>th</sup> -par             | 13 <sup>th</sup> -par            |
| 10.7260-1.0720  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> -1 <sup>st</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 1.0435-1.0462   | 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> |
| 1.7830-2.7865   | 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> | 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> |
| 244.15-244.87   | 180-210s                         | 340-345s                         |
| 180.27-180.57   | 47-54s                           | 151-163s                         |
| 212.2-182.17    | 25-40s                           | 155-24s                          |
| 2.3501-2.3534   | 1.04-0.98p                       | 2.10-2.01p                       |
| 1.9121-1.9250   | 1.13-1.12p                       | 3.45-3.3p                        |
| 10.9470-10.9730 | 1 <sup>st</sup> -1 <sup>st</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> |
| 4.4830-4.5000   | 1 <sup>st</sup> -1 <sup>st</sup> | 1 <sup>st</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> |
| 10.1300-10.1640 | 1 <sup>st</sup> -1 <sup>st</sup> | 18-18s                           |
| 238.67-238.92   | 1 <sup>st</sup> -1 <sup>st</sup> | 4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> |
| 1.9240-1.9256   | 1 <sup>st</sup> -1 <sup>st</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> -1 <sup>st</sup> |
| 2.4694-2.4717   | 1 <sup>st</sup> -par             | 1 <sup>st</sup> -par             |

Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

Australia \_\_\_\_\_ 1.3798-1.3808

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| Austria       | 10.09-10.11   |
| Belgium (Com) | 29.60-29.64   |
| Canada        | 1.2230-1.2240 |
| France        | 5.5530-5.5535 |

|             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| France      | 4.8950-4.9030 |
| Germany     | 1.4360-1.4365 |
| Hong Kong   | 1.7295-1.7305 |
| Ireland     | 1.8420-1.8450 |
| Italy       | 1010.0-1020.0 |
| Japan       | 123.55-123.60 |
| Malaysia    | 2.4970-2.4980 |
| Netherlands | 1.6215-1.6225 |
| Norway      | 5.6760-5.6860 |
| Portugal    | 125.55-125.85 |
| Singapore   | 1.5960-1.5970 |
| Spain       | 93.55-93.65   |
| Sweden      | 5.2460-5.2560 |
| Switzerland | 1.2695-1.2705 |

Price Hoe 10%,  
 10 mth 9% . Sell: 2 mth 9% ; 3 mth 9% .  
 2 mth 3 mth 6 mth 12 mth  
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Source: ESOMR; White: 597.59 % received: 100%  
 size: 59.6665 % last wk: 59.5978 % Next week:

| 1 mth   | 3 mth     | 6 mth   | Cash    |
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| 3%-5%   | 3%-2 1/2% | 3%-5    | 3%-5%   |
| 5%-9%   | 5%-9%     | 9%-10%  | 9%-9%   |
| 10%-14% | 10%-14%   | 10%-10% | 10%-10% |
| 14%-18% | 7%-14%    | 7%-7%   | 6%      |
| 18%-24% | 4%-5%     | 3%-4%   | 4%-5%   |

ESOMR: 539.00-540.40 High: 5341.80-5462.50  
 ESOMR: 5339.00-541.00 (1.76-25-177.25)  
 ESOMR New: 580.50-62.50 (41.75-62.75)

70 (£1.925) ~~Price~~ £88.50 (£45.65)















Mansell says most with fastest time

# Honda's farewell leaves McLaren car without power

FROM NORMAN HOWELL  
IN MONZA

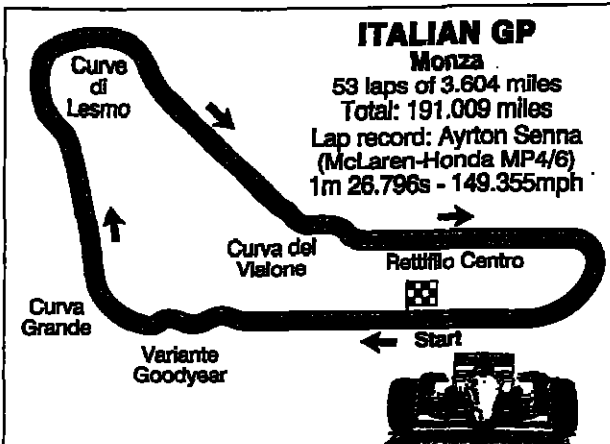
EVENTS off the track dominated discussion here yesterday. While Nigel Mansell was busy recording the fastest practice time for the Italian grand prix to be held here tomorrow all eyes were on the McLaren team of Ron Dennis.

Dennis and his leading driver, Ayrton Senna, talked much but said little to lift the cloud of mystery over who will be driving for which team next year and which engine will be used by McLaren following Honda's withdrawal from Formula One.

Mansell is at the centre of the driver mystery, but his most eloquent performance was given on the track but yesterday even his Williams-Renault, although fastest, did not obliterate the opposition quite the way he has done this season. Senna and Jean Alesi, in a Ferrari, were within half a second, as was his team-mate, Riccardo Patrese.

After practice, Mansell said that he has had problems with his engine and that he hoped that today his times would improve significantly. "We're struggling, there's no question about that." A good number of teams in the pit lane would like to struggle like Williams on a bad day.

Dennis, who has flown 16,000 miles in the last few days, looked remarkably fresh considering he had hosted a press conference in New York on Thursday morning. There he introduced his new driver, Michael Andretti, "one of the



ITALIAN GP  
Monza  
53 laps of 3.604 miles  
Total: 191.009 miles  
Lap record: Ayrton Senna  
(McLaren-Honda MP4/6)  
1m 26.796s - 149.355mph

four or five men who can really overtake, and have the speed and the aggression to be the best." His signing of Andretti has fuelled speculation that he was about to clinch a deal with an American engine manufacturer. But Ford, according to Ford Europe spokesmen and the Benetton management, have agreed a three-year deal with the Italian-owned team, and this includes both the V8 and the untried V12 engines.

The only other engines available would be either the Lamborghini V12, owned by Chrysler, or the Ilmor V10, owned by General Motors. That is what is available in the United States. But Dennis refused to be drawn on the subject except to confirm that Honda had told him as far back as December 1991 that they would be pulling out at the end of this season.

"Not even my wife knows who I am talking to," he said. This of course is no great solace to Senna, who is in the

unaccustomed position to have to wait and see what Dennis will ask him to race with next year.

The Brazilian talked at length about Honda. "I was instrumental in bringing them the Lotus, and in taking them to McLaren too. It is a great loss to the sport, to McLaren, and to me too. I liked the way they worked, it suited my style. Now I have to wait and see."

The former world champion seemed under some pressure as he kept wringing his hands, explaining that he thought that Honda had felt that McLaren had not kept the pace set by the Japanese in the continuing development of the car. He admitted that he too had known for a long time that Honda was going to pull out and that had influenced his thinking and his desire to shift to Williams, a more competitive team.

"I understand his need to put himself in a position to win," Dennis said. "But his position in the team is not made easier by the fact that I will not share any information with him regarding engines. So I accept that he might have to leave McLaren, to pursue his wish to win."

And Mansell, All will be revealed this weekend, he says. Frank Williams is saying nothing, except that he will remind questioners that he is a businessman. Meanwhile the vociferous Ferrari supporters, despite rain and recession, have arrived in great numbers.



Up to his neck in it: Conner, centre, displays a pragmatic approach to recruiting for next year's Whitbread Round the World yacht Race

## Conner blends together a team of rivals

BY BARRY PICKETTHALL

DENNIS Conner, one of the world's top yachtsmen, proved he was also the archetypal pragmatist at Southampton yesterday. The America's Cup skipper announced that he had pulled together a team of arch rivals to help him win next year's Whitbread Round the World yacht Race.

Leading Conner's challenge, sponsored by Winston, the American cigarette brand, is Brad Butterworth, the New Zealand yachtsman who navigated Chris Dickson's controversial glassfibre America's Cup challenger in 1987.

Conner caused a furore when he questioned New Zealand's motives for campaigning a plastic yacht by saying: "Why else would you want to build a glassfibre boat unless you wanted to cheat?"

Butterworth went on to partner Peter Blake aboard the 1989-90 Whitbread winner Steinelager II and returned to navigate Michael Fay's recent America's Cup challenger off San Diego which came in for further

criticism from the American for the alleged misuse of its bowsprit.

Conner's choice of Bruce Farr as designer is perhaps even more surprising considering that only three years ago he had called the New Zealand "a loser" during a televised clash immediately after the infamous Stars and Stripes catamaran defence against New Zealand's Farr-designed big boat challenger.

"It doesn't take a rocket scientist to work out who is the best designer for these boats," Conner explained yesterday.

"Farr has been on the other side of the fence since 1985, he is working well with my team and we have received all the co-operation we could wish for."

Conner did admit, however, that after the war of words that has gone before, it is unusual to see a New Zealand co-skippering his boat. "Brad's experience in this Whitbread and other events where he had tried to whip us, is exceptional. He was the obvious man for this race to lead the crew and take care of the logistics."

Their 60ft yacht, to be built in Venice, will be launched in April, and will compete in the New York to London race next July.

Conner admitted to having some apprehension about this 33,000-mile classic. "The longest race I have done before was 2,250 miles so I am a little nervous about what it will be like dodging icebergs in the southern ocean."

The American has won the America's Cup a record four times, together with an Olympic bronze medal and countless world championships.

Provisional opening qualifying times:  
1. N. Mansell (GB), Williams, 1m 22.586sec (av speed 252.627kph); 2. A. Senna (Br), McLaren, 1m 22.822; 3. J. Alesi (Fr), Ferrari, 1m 22.978; 4. R. Patrese (It), Williams, 1m 23.022; 5. G. Berger (Austria), McLaren, 1m 23.097; 6. M. Schumacher (Ger), Benetton, 1m 23.143; 7. M. Suda (GB), Benetton, 1m 23.151; 8. I. Capelli (It), Ferrari, 1m 23.177; 9. M. Hakkinen (Fin), Lotus, 1m 23.108; 10. T. Boutsen (Bel), Jager, 1m 23.173; 11. E. Gasco (Fr), Venturi, 1m 23.173; 12. E. Comas (Fr), Ligier, 1m 23.178; 13. M. Alboreto (It), Footwork, 1m 23.234; 14. O. Grouillard (Fr), Tyrrell, 1m 23.354; 15. A. de Cesaris

(It), Tyrrell, 1m 25.502; 16. P. Martini (It), Dallara, 1m 25.528; 17. G. Morbidelli (It), Minardi, 1m 25.578; 18. A. Suzuki (Japan), Footwork, 1m 25.775; 19. J. Lehto (Fin), Dallara, 1m 25.951; 20. J. Herbert (GB), Lotus, 1m 26.182; 21. E. Nappetti (It), March, 1m 26.278; 22. G. Tarquini (It), Fondmetal, 1m 26.307; 23. M. Gugelmin (Br), Jordan, 1m 26.483; 24. K. Wendlinger (Austria), March, 1m 26.587; 25. U. Katajama (Japan), Venturi, 1m 27.018; 26. E. Van de Poele (Bel), Fondmetal, 1m 27.018; 27. C. Piquet (Br), Minardi, 1m 27.228; 28. S. Modena (It), Jordan, 1m 27.331.

### BOXING

## Hodkinson's title looks safe

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT, IN TOULOUSE

PAUL Hodkinson, the World Boxing Council featherweight champion, from Liverpool, could halt the run of British failures on the Continent here tonight.

Hodkinson is the only British world champion who holds a title of a universally recognised world body, and should be too good for Fabrice Benichou, of France.

Although lured here, like the 13 Britons before him, by his biggest pay-day in 22 contests, Hodkinson is certain he will return with his title. He prefers to box away from home. "There's too much pressure at home. I feel relaxed here," he said yesterday.

However, his confidence could have something to do with the fact that Benichou used to train in Belfast in the gym of B.J. Eastwood, Hodkinson's manager, and is

known to his trainer, Bernardo Checca. "Benichou has an awkward style," Checca said. "Paul will have to be careful for three or four rounds, then Benichou will get tired and Paul will go for him."

The Frenchman appears to be past his best. After losing his International Boxing Federation (IBF) title in 1989, he moved up to super-bantamweight but failed to lift the world title. He then moved up to featherweight, twice beat John Davison, of Newcastle, but then again was unable to lift the IBF title, against Miguel Medina.

Whereas Hodkinson has had only one defeat and one draw in 22 contests, Benichou has lost 11 of his 44 bouts.

Hodkinson's only fear is for his eyes. He tends to collect lumps and bumps quickly, which often impair his vision.

Eastwood tried to prevent this by keeping his face cool by continually wiping it with iced vaseline and adrenalin.

Hodkinson will have to watch for Benichou's head and take notice of a warning from Davison: "Benichou is absolutely lethal with his head. He ducks low, comes up and catches you with the back of his head. Paul must be careful."

Whether this unorthodox tactic has anything to do with the fact that Benichou comes from a circus family, and used to be a contortionist and trapeze artist, is uncertain.

"Paul has the style and class to beat him if he sticks with the jab," Davison said. Hodkinson does not intend to fall for any tricks, and said that he would use the jab and come out only when it was safe to put his opponent away.

### ATHLETICS

## Golden champions take to the road

David Powell raises the curtain on the stage and the Olympian cast for Edinburgh's bright new road race along the Royal Mile

THE Fifth Avenue Mile in New York, the model which inspired the Princes Street Mile in Edinburgh, may be under threat of collapse but the latest addition to the British calendar takes place tomorrow with its foundations set in concrete. Six finalists from the Barcelona men's Olympic 1,500 metres are scheduled to appear and, with a women's race too, there will be four reigning Olympic champions in all.

The organisers have made such a good start that they have been able to stand on principle in a squabble over money with Hasiba Boulmerka, the Olympic 1,500 metres champion. Her manager, Enrico Dionisi, raised her pay demand at short notice and was rejected. With Ellen van Langen and Yelena Romanova, the Olympic champions at 800 and 3,000 metres, Boulmerka will not be greatly missed.

Although Rachid El Basir, the Olympic 1,500 metres runner-up, withdrew yesterday, the men's mile is still left with two of the medal winners from Barcelona, plus William Tanui, the 800 metres champion. Fernan Cacho, the 1,500 metres champion is the jewel in the crown which will be run at the foot of Edinburgh Castle.

When Hamish Henderson,

a Scottish businessman, announced 15 months ago his grand intentions for the Princes Street Mile, much response was: "We'll believe it when we see it." Within two or three years it can achieve similar status to the London Marathon," it was said. Without a title sponsor to provide £250,000 Henderson was asking, the plan to bring in the best from Barcelona seemed fanciful.

Even as recently as two months ago the event had not



Cacho: Spanish jewel

secured a main sponsor. "The last seeds of doubt that the event was going to go ahead were removed on July 21," Mike Wilson, of Cameplan, the event's management consultants, said. Standard Life stumped up £100,000 to take the title this year with an option for the next three years at nearer the figure that Henderson had in mind originally.

Some £500,000 is being spent to stage the event, of which one-fifth has gone in appearance fees. Cars costing some £10,000 each will be prize alternatives to cash for the winners but, should Cacho win, it will not be much good to him — he has two already and, besides, he does not drive. His Seat Toledo is described as an exclusive model, one of many gifts he has received for giving Spain a home win in the Montjuic Stadium. "He got an \$80,000 grant from the government and the Spanish federation, and \$1 million from a Spanish bank, which he will get when he is 50," Miguel Mostaza, Cacho's manager, said. No money can buy the rarity of a kiss from the Queen in public.

### CYCLING

## Boardman switches to French time

BY PETER BRYAN

CHRIS Boardman, the Olympic pursuit champion and world record holder, yesterday accepted an invitation to compete in Europe's classic amateur time-trial, the 57-kilometre (about 35 miles) Grand Prix des Nations in France.

The race against the clock, on September 26, will be held on a course in Brittany described as "rolling", which is likely to favour Boardman, Britain's hill climb champion for the last four years.

Boardman had entered tomorrow's national 90 miles road race championship (the Lowther tour of the Peak) at Buxton, but decided against starting because of "lack of form". He said: "After the trial I have only two more road events scheduled: the 32-mile Delamere circuit time-trial and the hill climb championship," he said.

Ian Cammish, the Raleigh professional, abandoned his attempt on the 203-mile London to York record 31 miles from the end. After an encouraging fast opening 100 miles, the wind changed, hindering Cammish.

### GOLF

Young anchorman h...  
Newquay take the l...

### ICE HOCKEY

## American league brings big names to Wembley

BY NORMAN DE MESQUITA

THIS weekend, for the first time in 33 years, two National Hockey League (NHL) teams will face off at Wembley Arena as the Montreal Canadiens and Chicago Blackhawks meet in the Molson Challenge.

If the weekend is a success it is hoped to make this an annual event. There could even be regular-season NHL games in this country, as the NHL is anxious to raise its profile this side of the Atlantic.

The teams will not take these games lightly. There are coaches to impress and places to be won for the new season, and a \$50,000 prize at stake. So, unlike the American Bowl, when the leading American football players tend to disappear from the action, all the big names will play their part. For Montreal, forwards Denis Savard, Kirk Muller and the recently acquired

Brian Bellows and Vincent Damphousse are the ones to watch. They also have the league's leading goaltender in Patrick Roy.

Ed Belfour is Chicago's No. 1 goalie and is also very highly rated. The Blackhawks have an outstanding defensive pairing in Steve Cheios and Steve Smith, who was born in Glasgow, and Steve Larmer, who has not missed a game in ten years.

Much has been made about the presence in the Chicago team of Stu Grimson, nicknamed "The Grim Reaper". But both clubs insist that fighting is not an important part of the game. New rules, which will be in force for the first time for these games, include ejection for anyone who starts a fight. The NHL has also introduced an "unsportsmanlike conduct" penalty for diving.

## Look who's dressed for dinner

The Rugby Football Union, having gone into the shirt marketing business, is no doubt on the look-out for more tacky ideas to raise a dubious quid or so for the "amateur" game.

Here is a jolly suggestion from Australia. The notion comes from the Australian Football League — that is to say, Australian No Rules Football — and they are producing a calendar.

It will not be the usual sporting calendar's collection of action shots — neck-high tackles, chaps using another chaps' kidneys as a ladder, and the usual delights of Aussie Rules. No, this calendar shows the players in a variety of fanciful poses away from the pitch.

Scott Wynd, of Footscray Bulldogs, greets June dressed as the young Marlon Brando.

Garry Lion, of Melbourne, smirks in a dinner suit, clutching a glass of cognac. Wayne Carey, of North Melbourne, appears bare-chested on the cover.

Tacky, true, but rather less tacky than the shirt scam, I think.

### Open admirer

Barbra Streisand has become the thinking person's Andre Agassi fan. She has been watching him at the US Open in New York this week.

"He's playing like a Zen master," she said. "He's very in the moment. And in fact, very concentrated, very focused, but very much aware of what's happening. And he can handle it. He's kind, also. A kind human being... and that just amazes me."

Agassi — not really a Sixties person — was baffled by Streisand's Zen koan, and said: "I'm going to have to talk to her about that one."

One year for a bit of style in English football, but yearning is as far as you get. Things are different in Italy:

## SIMON BARNES ON SATURDAY

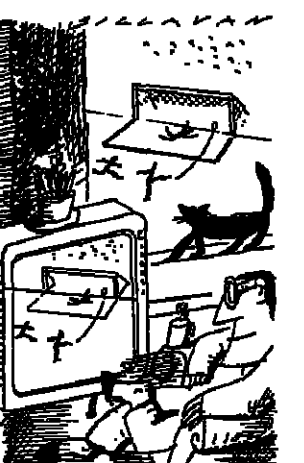
last Sunday, the newly promoted side, Pescara, went to the Olympic stadium in Rome and beat Roma 1-0. The Pescara centre half is a man called Ubaldo Righetti, who was seven years the Roma centre half, until discarded. He was so delighted with

the defeat of his old club that he presented every member of the Pescara team with a gold sovereign, and the goalscorer, Nobilio, whose long-range effort was decisively fumbled by the hapless custodian, was given two.

The gesture cost Righetti £2,000.

### Home supporter

Football chairmen are always talking about the closeness of their relationship with their clubs. Jonathan Hayward, chairman of Wolves, is planning to get closer than most — he is having a flat built into the Billy Wright Stand, to be erected at Molineux stadium, just along the corridor from the directors' box. The Wolves pitch will be his back garden. Hayward, 36, lives on a farm on the Scottish border. "I want to get closer to the supporters," he said.



### Green snow

The fax machine started chuntering away. What emerges? Yet another sporting scoop for this column? First out is a panther. Then a skull. Then an eagle. Then views of a rain forest. Then a troop of lizards. Fascinated, appalled, I watched on: the next thing to emerge was the word GRATEFUL DEAD.

What can all this mean? "It's a new concept in skis," Greg Spiers told me from New York. "It is the first time full-colour printing has been used on skis, and it will totally revolutionise the way skis have been thought of up till now."

Spiers, not a man to minimise his triumphs, designed the T-shirts for the Lithuanian basketball team sponsored by the Grateful Dead, the band of the Sixties and all subsequent decades.

The quite extraordinary success of the T-shirt — close to 100,000 sold worldwide at \$30 a time, Spiers says — has paved the way for this venture. Soon the world will be sliding downhill on skis that look like 1960s album covers. "I have three designs so far,

Panther Dream, American Beauty and Cosmic Cowboy." Far out.

### Last bastion

Which is the world's most chauvinistic sport? Well, the competition for that accolade is pretty intense, but racing is certainly a contender. There has, for example, never been a female Jockey Club steward. A steward is a man right at the heart of racing. But down in Australia, a lady called Angela Belle McSweeney is putting herself up for election to the Australian Jockey Club committee — the inner sanctum and Star Chamber of Australian racing. She is not the first woman to try, but if she gets there, she will be the first to succeed.

You haven't met a reactionary until you have met an Australian reactionary. "I would particularly like to attract young people back to racing," McSweeney said. "Racing has lagged well behind other sports, and I would like to push it back up there, to lead the field again." Never mind the Aussie Jockey Club, I think British racing should poach her right away.

Late surge from Pav...



## CRICKET

# Silence must end over ball-change controversy

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

IT IS now three weeks since the shady suspicions of the cricketing summer were thrown into spotlight by the infamous ball change during a Texaco Trophy match at Lord's.

And in these weeks, the governing body responsible for such matters has simply retreated from reality like a hibernating animal waiting for winter to pass.

Sadly for them, this is one season which will not pass until they assert some authority. The International Cricket Council, through its chairman Sir Colin Cowdrey, seems to be prevaricating on the assumption that the issue will soon be forgotten, but there are too many factions with either a vested or a moral interest for that to be a possibility.

Pakistan stand accused, if only by implication, of cheating. They are vigorously pleading their innocence. The umpires, Ken Palmer and John Hampshire, are believed to have misinterpreted a clause of the unfair play law. They, too, want their actions endorsed. And Allan Lamb, already punished for his public indiscretions on the subject, has more than a passing interest in having his allegations officially confirmed.

Meanwhile, the lawyers who line both sides of this winding road are plainly having the overriding influence. It is their predatory presence which is cowering the ICC into an embarrassed and misguided silence on a matter which it has had several opportunities to close firmly and unequivocally.

Sir Colin was not in England when the ball change occurred. It would probably have made no difference if he had been. Since returning to take charge of the affair, the chairman has only given fresh credence to the standing joke within cricket about the ICC's first initial standing for indecisive.

Three times, this week, a fresh date has been issued, via the ICC secretariat at Lord's, for a statement on ball-tampering from Cowdrey. Three times, it has passed unfulfilled. Yesterday, Cowdrey made it known that he just might say something towards the end of next week, but could not say whether it would relate to the Lord's incident or simply to the subject in general.

This week, next week, sometime, never? The ICC's preference is apparently for the last option and, hemmed in by legal constraints, they must have a semblance of sympathy, though no more. The interests of cricket are being shamefully served by this prolonged charade.

The first mistake of the saga was to change a ball covertly during a lunch break, where interpretation could be challenged, rather than in public during playing time. The second was to duck the issue by declining to say immediately why it had been changed.

The third mistake is perhaps the most damaging of all. The game is being made to look ungovernable by the spinelessness of the ICC, unless Sir Colin breaks silence very soon.

## Border queries light rule

Colombo: Allan Border, the Australia captain, has called for a rule change, after Sri Lanka batsmen came off for bad light while spin bowlers were operating. The rain-hit third and final Test match between the two countries seems destined for a draw when it resumes today after yesterday's rest day.

Russell Lankat, needing to force a win to square the series, start the fourth day at 21.5 for four wickets in reply to Australia's first-innings 337. Nearly five-and-a-half hours has been lost through rain. Border said: "The weather has spoiled what would have been a good Test match. The wicket is the best we've played in the series."

He said: "There should be an international ruling given to umpires to call off play only in extreme cases. There is a lot of tactical play involved in coming off for bad light, rather than for reasons not being able to see the ball. We are losing too much cricket this way."

Hassan Tillekeratne and Arjuna Ranatunga, the Sri Lanka captain, had accepted the umpire's offer for light on the third day when spinners were operating at either end.

Sri Lanka are expected to bat at least another three hours today before closing their innings.

They refused to play on the rest day. (Reuters)



Pavilion view: Fraser, left, and Tufnell, of Middlesex, wait to bat at Lord's

## Twose shows the way home

BY RICHARD STREETON

LORD'S (final day of four): Warwickshire (24pts) beat Middlesex (5) by eight wickets

THE season ended at Lord's in front of a handful of spectators yesterday with Warwickshire needing just under two hours to complete their win. They were left to score 54 and belligerent strokeplay by Twose saw them home.

This was Warwickshire's sixth championship win and lifted them to sixth. They play second-placed Kent in their final game this weekend. It is one of four fixtures which will decide second to fifth placings behind Essex, the champions. All earn prize-money.

Middlesex meet Surrey to complete what has been a disappointing season, other than their triumph in the Sunday league. The return of Haynes and Carr brought batting dividends, but the absence of the injured Cowans and Fraser's slow return to form and fitness meant that the attack lacked penetration.

There were also not enough runs from Brown, whose preference as wicketkeeper ahead of Parbrace, always remained a talking point.

Brown, though, completed his first hundred this season as last four Middlesex wickets fell in half-an-hour against the new ball. Brown hit a six and 12 fours and faced 149 balls before he was caught behind against Donald. It was the sixth time this season that Donald has taken five wickets in an innings.

Twose struck Taylor for four fours in his first four scoring strokes and Gatting brought on his two spinners after five overs. Tufnell quickly bowled Moles behind his legs as he tried to sweep and then hit Lloyd's stumps when the batsman chose to play back. Twose settled matters by twice lifting Embury into the Grandstand for six.

WARWICKSHIRE: First innings 476 (T. L. Penney 151, R. G. Twose 84, K. J. Piper 72)

Second innings

A. J. Moles b Tufnell 1

R. G. Twose not out 36

D. J. Lloyd b Tufnell 13

D. J. O'Connell not out 3

Extras (b 1, w 1, nb 1) 3

Total 6 wickets 57

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-24

BOWLING: Taylor 3-0-18-0; Fraser 2-0-0-0; Donald 5-0-16-2; Embury 6-1-22-0

MIDDLESEX: First innings 201 (M. K. Smith 58, R. G. Twose 44)

Second innings

D. L. Haynes c Martin b Small 28

M. K. Smith c Small b Small 71

M. R. Hampten c Small b Small 24

J. E. Embury c Small b Small 108

M. K. Smith c Small b Small 24

A. R. C. Fraser b Martin 2

C. R. Tufnell b Martin 2

Total 6 wickets 17

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-34, 3-152, 4-186, 5-216, 6-220, 7-220, 8-227, 9-227

BOWLING: Donald 18-0-36-3; Small 22-0-74-5; Taylor 10-0-12-0; Fraser 10-0-20-0; Lloyd 7-0-14-0; Smith 21-4-84-0; Twose 24-11-0

Umpires: M. J. Kitchen and K. E. Palmer

## EQUESTRIANISM

## Nolan intends to take a positive route to triumph

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

PIPPA Nolan intends to "ride for her life" on the cross-country at the Burghley Remy Martin Horse Trials today after retaining her overnight lead on Metronome at the end of the wind-affected second day of dressage.

The national champion, 23, has also moved into fifth place on her second ride, Heron's Flight. Both her horses are nine-year-olds by Home Boy, and were bred in Norfolk by her trainer, Ruth McMillen, the architect of Nolan's successful career.

Although they have excelled at Bramham, a three-star event, the two horses have yet to prove themselves at four-star level.

"I don't want to put too much pressure on them because they are both young, but it's such a big and technical course that I'll have to ride like hell anyway," Nolan said. Surprisingly, the first three riders from Thursday all retained their positions yesterday.

The best test of the day came from Andrew Harris on his Olympic long-listed Ballycon, who is in fourth place behind Didier Courages, of France, and Paddy Muir, of Great Britain. Other good tests came from Charlotte Hollingsworth, on Solo Performance — who was also on the Olympic long list after finishing 21st at Badminton — and Owen Moore, with Locomotion.

Afterwards, Moore summed up the riders' attitude towards Mark Phillips' 30-fence cross-country course. "You've got to be accurate and brave and really commit yourself," he said.

Lucinda Green, whose top hat blew off in the wind during her dressage test, is steering herself to be committed on her new ride, Up River, owned by Ernie Fenwick. She is lying 22nd, although she is less than ten points behind Nolan.

"It's a very big course and I shall wait to see how Up River's going before I decide on some routes, but I shall probably go the long way at the sunken road," she said. But she was interrupted by Fenwick. "Have you ever heard of the word 'straight'?" the Yorkshireman asked her before pinning a badge saying "have faith" on her jacket.

Fenwick, who hunts Up River with the horse a winner, considered his horse a winner. Rodney Powell, the winner of Blenheim last weekend, produced one of the most attractive tests of the day on The Fisherman. Powell's main problem today was holding the ten-year-old gelding.

At Badminton they had to retire after a heavy fall at the last fence. Powell is confident that his new bit — a gag — will help his cause.

The going for the cross-country is perfect and reflects the 60,000 improving has been invested in improving the four-and-a-half-mile track. Over the last five years the ground has been levelled and much of the ridge and furrow removed.

Regular mowing has also ensured a thick covering of grass.

RESULTS (after dressage): 1. Metronome (P. Nolan, GB), 47.80pts; 2. Robin des Bois (D. Courages, Fr), 48.40; 3. Archie Brown (P. Muir, GB), 48.50; 4. Salvo (C. Hollingsworth, GB), 49.10; 5. Heron's Flight (P. Nolan, GB), 51.10; 6. Solo Performance (C. Hollingsworth, GB), 51.20.

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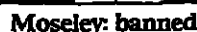
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**DalGLISH  
in der  
endange**



Mike Griffiths, Cardiff's loose head prop, was the first to be dismissed in the match against Aberystwyth. At Swansea, there were those who believed that Andy Collins, the Newbridge lock, who attempted to butt Andrew Sutton, should also have had an early bath. It was the touch judge who drew the referee's attention to Collins and he was allowed to stay on. The referee can only act on a touch judge's recommendation.

There are those, too, who will use these incidents as confirming that the intensity of the league programme serves to increase the potential for violence. Statistics indicate that two years ago in the inaugural year of the

Heinken League there were 34 sendings off (12 in the premier division) from among the 38 clubs, but last season with two extra teams in the league this was reduced to 30 (seven in what was the premier but is now the first). Yet, last year produced the worst Welsh figures on record. Three hundred players were dismissed. This suggests that there is less discipline at the lower level of the game than in the higher echelons. Coaches and play-

ers confirm that discipline has improved. This is prompted by the realisation that losing players carries the risk of not only losing the game but the consequent drop in league position. The Welsh Rugby Union is among the leaders in cleaning up the game.

But this is not universally the case. In almost every one of New Zealand's matches this summer against Ireland and Australia there were several incidents when the boot was used and which were

unpunished. Referees give the impression that the ruckering game is part of New Zealand's heritage the All Blacks are innocent of misdeemeanour, that when the boot goes in they do so with the sole intention of getting the ball. This may be part but not the whole truth.

In this respect there were many disappointing features to these games this summer. There were incidents involving both teams in the South African international. All of them were suspicious of the fact that some countries are more lenient than others.

The outstanding example was the All Black Richard Loe's cynical elbowing of Carozza's face in the second

Australian international, to neither the referee, Patrick Robin, nor the touch judge, saw the incident there was sufficient television evidence to show the callous act.

New Zealand's management washed their hands of the incident. "New Zealand's rugby council is Loe-er than Loe," read the Sydney banner. It was a disgraceful abrogation of duty. Duty was seen to be less unacceptable behaviour. The rugby authorities were diminished and the game damaged.

Jim Evans, the Australian who was sent to Cardiff, points out that differences exist between what various countries deem to be appropriate punishment for

misdeemeanours. Evans wants a more uniform interpretation. There are other discrepancies. A player sent off in an international match can receive a six-month ban through violent behaviour. Moseley, of Wales, and Carminetti, of France, both received such a ban two years ago.

A similar incident at club level will receive six weeks. Furthermore a player on tour who is sent off, says, might forfeit one or a couple of matches. If each union is responsible for conducting its own internal affairs they should promote a more standard interpretation at international level. A code of behaviour should be strictly adhered to.

# Bath forge contacts across Channel to improve experience

**By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT**

Bath warmed up with a 62-15 defeat of Cassle in midweek and have been reinforced today by a clutch of representative players: Swift de Glanville, Ubogu and O'Leary, the former Wasps lock, are all due to play.

Mark Ella, the former Australian stand-off half, brings a Milan side oozing international class to Welford Road. There is a strong Argentine presence in Gomez, Milano and Dominguez, the latter having appeared for Italy in the World Cup last year, while the Irish division also includes Cuttita, Bonomi, who played against New Zealand at Leicester last October.

Across the Midlands where Coventry entertain Northampton

arption, the Saints will be without Ian Hunter, the England B full back. Hunter has to undergo surgery to a damaged cartilage and will miss the start of their league campaign.

Uniquely, the Irish international provincial sides kick off at Sunbury for the first time at Irish Exiles XV will appear in the competition which, after the troubled tour to New Zealand last summer, is now of even greater importance to Ireland's selectors as a provincial ground. Three selectors including Claran Fitzgerald, the coach, will watch the Exiles play Munster, Noel Murray, the Ireland team manager, will be due to watch London Irish play Leicester in their league

## MATCH-BY-MATCH GUIDE

injuries and unavailability means that the Wales players are not at the South Wales Police joins Michael in the midfield.

**Neath v Pontypool**

Neath have Thorburn recovered from a hamstring strain at full back, with Ball at centre and McCarthy paired with Rhodri Jones at half back. Thomas (hooker) and Whetton (lock) join the back row. An unchanged Pontypool eight, but Taylor and Lee Jones play at centre with Jardine at scrum half.

**Newbridge v Aberavon**

Newbridge, who came close against Swansea a week ago, make only one change, Austin playing at prop instead of Howells. Aberavon make a more marked seven changes from the team beaten by Cardiff for a game which, over the last two seasons, has produced an average of 55 points.

**S Wales Police v Newport**

After the awkward debut in the first round at the South Wales Police will want better fortune for their young side against a Newport team without George, the captain, and Allen. Pugh plays flanker and Arthur is at lock.

David Hughes

New Zealand, whose presence at Manchester has meant so much, while Matt Keenan, the Western Samoan lock, is now playing for London Irish is also included.

Munster are without Philip Danaher, the Ireland captain, whose last appearance was against New Zealand in Dundee. Danaher has spent the summer recovering from a damaged knee and is due to play for Garryowen tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the Welsh rugby team will dominate all national governing bodies confirming the professional status of Stuart Evans, the former Neath prop, who made nine appearances for Wales. Evans, 29, joined St Helens' rugby club five years ago, but has been in Canada and France this year offering assistance to rugby union organisations, contrary to amateur regulations.

**IRISH EXILES** (v Munster, London Irish unless stated) — Stephen Clancy (Widzew), John Connolly (Leeds), Matt Keenan (London Irish), Paddy Lacey (Gloucester), M. Conboy (Bristol), B. Williams (Cardiff), J. Saunders (Cardiff), J. Moriarty, D. O'Brien, D. Coughlan (Northampton), M. Keenan, D. Kelly.

☐ David Hands

**FROM ALAN LORIMER IN MADRID**

wards in the World Cup. Both, however, and being tried in the same manner as No. 8, where he has been playing successfully for his Melrose club side, and Burnell moves from tighthead prop to the loose-head side as Scotland seek a successor in this position to David Sole.

The experiment of moving Weir to No. 8 is in recognition that the new laws operating this season demand in Dixon's words "a back five".

In that context the Scots selectors will be very interested in the performance of Adam Roxburgh, who has come out of the same Kelso stable as John Jeffrey. An accomplished basketball player and a useful

cricketer, Roxburgh has the athleticism and height to make a significant contribution in the line-out.

Among the backs Gregor Townsend, 19, has a further opportunity to enhance his growing reputation, but today he is at outside centre, whereas on tour in Australia he played all his games at stand-off. His partner is Ian Jardine, the hard-tackling Stirling centre.

Spain play the back row that appeared against Scotland A at Murrayfield last December and will use Alberto Malo, the former flanker, who played in the World Cup qualifying tournament, as a lock forward.

The Spanish look strong in the front row where Julio Alvarez,

**WELSH** Rugby Union secretary Denis Evans is to send a circular to the rest of the International Board countries telling them not to grant permission to Stuart Evans to play rugby union.

The former Wales prop, who joined St Helens for £80,000 in 1987, popped up in Grenoble last month and actually played 23 minutes against Toulon. He was able to do that because the French Federation granted him a licence after receiving clearance from the Canadian RU.

Evans did some coaching in Ottawa during the summer and then applied to play in

France. Now Denis Evans wants to ensure Wales are not seen to be breaking the rules and will warn the rest of the rugby-playing world about his namesake.

"We have had no involvement with Stuart Evans since he joined St Helens," said Evans. "We will be making other countries fully aware of his professional status in case he tries to do this again."

Under International Rugby Board's rules a professional player can apply to have his amateur status returned three years after his final payment. That does not allow him to play or referee.

[illegible]

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT, IN NEW YORK

SUCH has been the dominance of the Americans over the past fortnight that the fourth grand slam tournament of the year has become more closed shop than US Open championships.

After Jim Courier and Pete Sampras, Michael Chang became the third member of the home guard to take up seeded station in the semi-finals. Inevitably, he did so the hard way, beating Wayne Ferreira 6-1, 6-1 in 104 minutes, 40 hours and 17 minutes, about four hours and 17 minutes after these championships.

Ferreira, the No. 12 seed, was hampered by a thigh injury from early in the fourth set, which complicated Chang's task as much as his own. This has not been a lucky tournament for the South African, who is a strapping lad, but whose susceptibility to injury has brought new meaning to the term.

Last year, he twisted an ankle in the second round and had to be carried off the grandstand court. This time,

on the same court, the same training, was called to apply his massive brawn to his opponent's thigh, though it did not surprise Ferreira from leavelling the match in the tie-break. "I wasn't carried off this time, I walked off, so it wasn't too bad," he said.

More significantly, Ferreira suffered from a sense of déjà vu in the fifth set as well. He had lost three of his career five-set matches by a score of 6-1 in the final set, and when he dropped out of service in the opening game of the last set of the acknowledged loser of the master of the art - Chang he won his previous round against Malivi Washington 6-1 in the fifth - the laws of statistics began to take effect.

The harder Ferreira tried to hit his way out of trouble, the more mistakes he made and once Chang, the No. 4 seed, had edged ahead, there was no way back for the Australian. Open semi-finalist.

"I have got a mental block on five sets and as soon as I lost my serve, I started think-

ing about my record," Ferreira said. Perhaps that weakness found way into the final black box in which Chong, like Lendi in his younger days, records the details of his opponents' games.

No amount of homework could have prepared him for the power of Ferreira's groundstrokes, which, time and again, left the quickest players on the tour stranded on the baseline. Should Ferreira build on his progress this year by adding patience to his long list of qualities, he will be a definite threat in all the grand slam tournaments next year, particularly those on faster surfaces.

Chang has become the tournament's Pimpelmerl. He has been scheduled here, there and everywhere, having twice been moved from the main court to the grandstand court next door to accommodate names more attractive to the armchair viewer. As the smallest of the semi-finalists by a good few inches — and the one beaten by Jeremy Bates in the

first round at Wimbledon perhaps he was the easiest push around.

But in 1989 French Open champion, who has now reached the last four of a grand slam event since the epic win in Paris, cannot be shifted to the winds today, as the US Open enjoys its annuity of tennis. Strangely, experience might be the young American's main enemy.

"It is important that I don't go into the semi-final satisfied with what I've done. This is my second-best effort in a grand slam, so I just have to keep going," he said.

Hard work, though, has never bothered Courier and he would yet profit from his widely held view that the winner of the semi-final between Sampras and Courier is the automatic men's singles champion for 1992. On the basis of his four-set victory over Agassi, Courier is the favourite, but he has never been comfortable facing the mercurial Sampras, whose casual take-it-or-leave-it attitude

## RESULTS FROM FLUSHING MEADOW

US unless stated

**Men's singles**

**Quarter-finals**

J Courier to A Agassi, 6-3, 6-7, 6-1, 6-4;  
M Chang to W Ferreira (SA), 7-5, 2-6,  
6-3, 6-7, 6-1; S Edberg (Swe) leads  
1 Landt, 6-3, 6-3, 3-6, 5-7, 2-1  
(suspended due to rain).

**Men's doubles**

**Semi-finals**

J Grobb and R Raneberg to J  
Gonzalez and M Stich (Ger), 6-3, 7-5,  
7-6, 4-6, 6-2.

**Women's doubles**

**Semi-finals**

G Fernandez and N Zvereva (CIS) to A  
Sánchez Vicario (Sp) and H Sukova  
(CZ), 6-1, 6-3.

**Mixed doubles**

**Quarter-finals**

H Sukova (Cz) and T Nijssen (Hol) b  
2 Garrison and R Leach, 6-4, 6-4.  
**Semi-finals**  
N Provie and M Woodroffe (Aus) tie  
Reinach (SA) and P Galbraith, 6-0, 6-  
3; H Sukova (Cz) and T Nijssen (Hol)  
by J Hetherington and G Hochberg  
(Can), 6-4, 6-3.  
**BOYS' SINGLES:** Third Round: M  
Friedman by A Richardson (GB), 6-7,  
6-1, 6-2.  
**GIRLS' SINGLES:** Third Round: M  
Hummel to L Woodroffe (GB), 1-6, 6-1,  
6-1.  
**WOMEN'S MAISTERS DOUBLES:** Fina-  
l: W Turnbull (Aus) and S V Wade (GB)  
by J Russell-London and S Watson, 6-3,  
6-4.  
**MIXED DOUBLES:** Second round: B  
Siddle and A Weininger tie C  
Gutierrez (Col) and L Horn (SA), 6-3, 6-1;  
J Pullen and L Woodroffe (GB) tie  
M Bernard and V Webb (Can), 7-8, 4-6, 7-5.

leads their series 5-1, though Courier has won their only match in a grand slam tournament, ending his old friend's reign as US Open champion last year.

Either way, the organisers will pray for sunshine. Torrid rain has so disrupted the schedule over the past few days, nobody told the finalists in the mixed doubles their match had been postponed. They were about to go on court when Chang and Ferreira marched past to begin their quarter-final. But then the US Open has always been a movable feast.

## Leeds look to take advantage

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

BY THE time of the World Cup final on October 24, those sides which have reached the final stages of the county cup competitions will have played, in two months, the equivalent of nearly half the domestic season in Australia. Ironically, the enormous fixture strain could actually play into Great Britain's hands.

After several weeks of inactivity, the Australians may find that the preparatory strolls against Huddersfield, Sheffield Eagles and Cumbria insufficiently taxing for the rigours of a rejuvenated Britain at Wembley.

That is the fervent hope, anyway. More often, county cups and preliminary rounds of other competitions are a damaging irrelevance. A system that requires players here to compete in twice as many games as their Australian counterparts was a significant factor in the 2-1 defeat in the international series this summer, according to Malcolm Reilly, the Great Britain coach.

The national side would be better served by switching county cup ties to pre-season. At the moment, they negate the benefit of the three-division format introduced last year to help ease fixture congestion.

Some clubs, at least, are glad of any silverware — plus additional revenue. Winning the Yorkshire Cup in 1988 represents Leeds's only success in eight years. Hummel, of the third division, should provide welcome respite in the first round at Headingley tomorrow after two league defeats. Gareth Stephens deputises for the injured Andy Gregory at scrum half.

Bradford Northern, having already beaten last year's winners, Castleford, entertain Bramley, and include Deryck Fox, their record £140,000 midweek signing. Having failed to catch Fox, Hull have spoiled their meeting with Hull Kingston Rovers at the Boulevard by sale of signing Graeme Haller, their rivals' disaffected Great Britain wing.

## Perth will try again — for 2002 Games

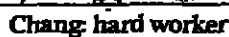
**Perth, Australia:** Perth will apply to host the 2002 Commonwealth Games, the Western Australian sports minister Graham Edwards, said yesterday. The move, more than 20 years after Perth, the Western Australian capital, was overlooked as Australia's candidate for the Commonwealth Games in 1998.

Adelaide, the South Australian capital, won Australian backing, but this failed where the Games were awarded to the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur.

Edwards said the groundwork laid for the 1998 application would form the basis of an updated Perth tender, with the Games office expected to cost A\$450 million (about US\$1.8 million).

"We'll obviously modify that bid, but there should not be any significant changes," he said. The Perth application for 1998 proposed that the opening and closing ceremonies and the track and field events would be held in developed Perry Lakes Stadium in the suburb of Floreat Park.

The stadium was built for the 1962 Commonwealth Games. Projections are that renovations costing A\$250 million (about US\$7.3 million) would be required, (AFP)



**Mixed doubles.**  
**Quarter-finals**



## Tackling from behind condemned

Dalglish strikes out  
in defence of  
endangered players

By CLIVE WHITE

AS KENNY Dalglish prepared yesterday to bring his unbeaten Blackburn Rovers side to Highbury for what could be the most severe test to date of their championship credentials, he expressed his disappointment that the tackle from behind was creeping back into the game.

His view was vented in a week when Alan Shearer, his England forward, suffered a fearful battering in the international match against Spain in Santander, though Dalglish insisted that that had not prompted his warning. Indeed, he takes on Arsenal with his side showing a clean bill of health.

"There seems to have been a lot of injuries at other clubs which have affected games," he said. "Everybody is concentrating so much on the back-pass law that they are losing sight of the fact that the tackle

from behind is creeping back. We are very fortunate it has not affected us so far but in a lot of games defenders are taking a hell of a chance going through the back of people."

"Three or four years ago there were attempts to clean up the game by coming down hard on the tackle from behind. I hope it doesn't revert to how it was before that."

"The responsibility lies with players and managers to put on a game the way people like to see it. It should be played with the best of intentions but sometimes intentions go overboard and referees are pushed to the limit."

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, seemed to be more concerned with the damage that Shearer could inflict on his defence at the end of what he described as "a very unproductive week" for his club. Almost the entire

Arsenal squad set off in various directions on international duty after defeat at Wimbledon last Saturday.

"We have had so few people around the club and so many injuries that it was hardly worth training," he said. Wright has had intensive treatment on his thigh injury and Adams has had to protect a head wound. Even Dixon returned from the England game suffering from concussion, but he should be fit. Linpar, who has missed the last three Arsenal games, is expected to be recalled.

Mark Bright's transfer from Crystal Palace to Sheffield Wednesday was completed after Paul Williams, who was moving in the opposite direction, agreed terms with Steve Coppell, the Palace manager. Bright was valued at £875,000 in the deal, Wednesday handing over £375,000 and Williams in return. Both will make their debuts today.

Paul Lake, the injured young Manchester City player, will travel to the United States next week for an operation which he hopes will save his career. Lake, who broke down again after a recent comeback, will be operated on by Dominic Cisto, a leading surgeon in Los Angeles.

The operation has already saved the careers of John Salako, of Crystal Palace, and Ian Durant, of Rangers, who suffered similar injuries.

## Clough gets his freedom

BRIAN Clough is to be given the freedom of Nottingham, after rumours that his reign at the City Ground could be coming to an end.

Council leaders want to bestow the city's highest honour in recognition of Clough's achievements as Nottingham Forest manager. But Forest are bottom of the Premier League and Betty Higgins, the leader of the Labour con-

trolled council, said: "We had heard a rumour that Brian would not be in charge of Forest for much longer. It was just something that someone said. I don't know whether it's true or not but we wanted to do it while he is still in charge."

Clough has been approached privately and has confirmed that he will accept the honour.



Architect of change: Walker, the Norwich manager, supervises a training session at Carrow Road

Walker succeeds in inserting steel  
while retaining style at Norwich

CLIVE WHITE

THE three points apart, nothing will have pleased Mike Walker, the Norwich City manager, more last Saturday than to hear Southampton, of all people, bleating about being kicked off the Carrow Road pitch. Ridding oneself of a reputation — in Norwich's case a soft touch — requires extreme effort, as the shining Saints know too well.

Someone as nice as Norwich's new manager must have to work hard at imparting a mean streak in his players. Ken Brown, David Stringer and David Williams all placed the accent at Norwich on kicking, or caressing, the ball rather than opponents, and Walker, at heart, is no different.

If there is a new steel about Norwich, it is not evident to all. Andy Townsend, who played for them in their "nice" days (and for Southampton during theirs), too was not about to believe all he had heard. "I read what David Speedie had to say about the way he was treated, but the basis of Norwich's game is about football, not thugery," he said.

In fact, I don't feel they've added any muscle at all. A team with players like Mark Robins, Lee Power and Ruel Fox are not about to go around hammering people."

It will be up to Walker to disillusion Townsend in that

respect today when he takes his league leaders to Stamford Bridge to face a Chelsea team also containing a Norwich old boy, in Robert Fleck.

Walker must be doing something differently, to have caused such a dramatic change in the fortunes of a club which has repeatedly sold its best players in an effort to remain in the club.

"If there were criticisms of Norwich, it was that we sometimes melted in games, and that we overplayed," he said. "I don't want people to enjoy playing us any more, but still enjoy watching us. Too much short-ball with no end product is not going to get you anywhere. I want to see a more penetrating style, so instead of having six passes, let's have five and a shot on goal."

His best-laid schemes of pre-season were shot to pieces during the first 39 minutes of the new season, however, when the 250-1 outsiders for the championship were forced to disperse with their new sweeper system after Arsenal swept it aside, scoring twice. Norwich reverted to a flat back four. Seaman failed to reach a cross ("our success, not his failure"), and the rest is history.

Walker's signing of Robins

from Manchester United for £800,000 as replacement for Fleck has proved an inspired one, but perhaps no more so than that of Gary Megson, whom he acquired from Manchester City on a free transfer.

Walker hopes that the influential, combative Megson will in time help to produce a tougher breed at Norwich.

Walker ought to be experiencing an uneasy feeling of déjà vu. The last time he was at or near the top of the table, when manager of Colchester United, he was promptly rewarded with dismissal. The unkindest cut of all coincided with him being made manager of the month.

"When the chairman invited me round to his house I honestly thought it was to receive a wage increase, or at least a pat on the back. Instead he said, 'It's all over'."

Apparently he had been listening to the whispers which told him, "you'll never get out of the fourth division playing football". After 10 years he spent a lot of money bringing in people like Alan Ball, Jack Wallace and Mick Mills, and all it got them was relegation from the league. He always said he'd get them out of the fourth division."

Walker was delighted to see

them return this season, minus the chairman and playing football. The experience, though, had an effect on him. "It made me a lot harder," he said. "If I walked in here tomorrow and was told I'd been sacked, I don't think I'd turn a hair."

His snow-white pate, however, does not appear to have been caused by worry. Indeed, he said, he possesses a composure which he shares with Ian, his son and the Tottenham Hotspur and England Under-21 goalkeeper.

Since Walker Sr was a goalkeeper, playing for various league clubs, one imagined that young Ian did not want for personal schooling. In fact, dad gave up after one session when he realised he was imposing his own standards on an eight-year-old.

If Walker doubted whether he and his son could ever enjoy the same working relationship that Brian and Nigel Clough seem to do, he has done his best to follow Nottingham Forest's lead in other respects.

"I'd like to think it's good for the game that a team like ours is on top of the league, but it's got to be sustained," he said. "It's going to take a Norwich or Forest to win the league and be prominent for a few years to have any real effect on how we play the game in this country."

## MATCH-BY-MATCH GUIDE

**Today**  
**Arsenal v Blackburn**  
Blackburn's unbeaten record and championship credentials should be put severely to the test by Arsenal. Shearer, despite a bruising time in Spain, is fit to lead the Blackbarn attack with Wegerle and Cowans still confined to the substitutes' bench. Arsenal are ready to recall Linpar after an absence of three games. Wright and Dixon are also in a squad which includes Sealey, 18, a midfielder player.

**Chelsea v Norwich**  
Two former Norwich old boys — Townsend and Fleck — could make it hard for the league leaders, though the former is struggling with a back injury. Spacken and Barnes, the new Chelsea signings, will be given their chance. Robins, who came on to score Norwich's winner last week, keeps his place due to an injury to Power, and Megson leads the side in the absence of Butterfield.

**Crystal Palace v Oldham**  
Another defeat for Palace will go down badly with the supporters hard on the heels of Bright's transfer to Wednesday. Williams, who was received in part-exchange, begins a new attacking partnership with Armstrong, who will also be making his first home appearance. Kewley is recalled from Chester to take over from Gray in the Oldham goal.

**Everton v Manchester U**  
United, fresh from their defeat of Leeds, will be looking to gain some revenge against Everton, too, for their 3-0 home reverse a few weeks ago. United, who have not conceded a goal in four matches, are unchanged. Everton welcome back Ridsout and give Ebrell a late fitness test on a hamstring injury.

**Ipswich v Wimbledon**  
Wimbledon have been Ipswich's only victim in their unbeaten start to the season. But with the inspirational Jones and possibly Soles back for Wimbledon, do not rule out a sixth consecutive draw for the Portman Road team.

**Man City v Middlesbrough**  
City, whose recent record against Middlesbrough is not a good one, will hope that they can continue to thrive in the absence of Quinn, who is still suspended. Shearer again stands in. Hinch is in line for a return for Middlesbrough after missing three games with a calf injury.

**Nottingham Forest v Sheffield Wed**  
Forest are starting at their sixth consecutive defeat, Wednesday at their fourth. Black will be given one last chance to resurrect his Forest career against the team it has been his goal to join.

**Sheffield U v Liverpool**  
After getting off sharply against Manchester United on

the opening day of the season, Sheffield United are back to their wretched early-season form of the last two seasons. Dave Bassett had hoped to reforge the Deane-Agana partnership but the latter declined a loan move from Notts County. United hope that Barnes and Hodges will return after injury. Liverpool, unbeaten in four games, can call on Nicol and Stewart again.

**Southampton v QPR**  
Rangers badly need to regain their goalscoring touch if they are to sustain a leading position. The loss of Bardeley, their attacking full back, due to an injury received during his brief appearance for England in Spain will not help matters. Channing is likely to deputise. Southampton's problems are much worse. Cockrell and Adams could again be joined on the sidelines by Dixon and possibly Flowers if the goalkeeper has not recovered from a rib injury.

**Leeds v Aston Villa**  
After three games without a win Leeds need to get back into that winning habit before next week's European Cup tie in Stuttgart. For the first time this season, they are forced to make a change due to a hamstring injury to Wallace. It could give Rocaeste his chance but Strachan and Hodge are also in contention. Villa will be looking to Saunders, their new signing, to carry on the good work of last week when beating Palace 3-0.

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**BADMINTON**  
WIMBLEDON: Mensa tournament (English) started. Mensa First round: 1. E. Edwards vs R. Harcourt 15-11, 15-12, 15-12; 2. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 3. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 4. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 5. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 6. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 7. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 8. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 9. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 10. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 11. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 12. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 13. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 14. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 15. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 16. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 17. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 18. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 19. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 20. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 21. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 22. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 23. J. Brown vs P. G. G. 15-11, 15-12; 24. J. Brown vs P. G. 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Atkinson impressed by career move

## Saunders takes cut in pay to leave Liverpool

By CLIVE WHITE

THE full extent of just how desperate Dean Saunders was to leave Anfield revealed itself yesterday when Ron Atkinson, the Aston Villa manager, disclosed that the player had taken almost a 50 per cent cut in wages to come to Villa Park.

As for Atkinson, he discovered just how desperate Villa needed Saunders when he was informed that Tony Daley, his England winger, could be out of action for several months after surgeons found a ligament tear when operating on his knee.

Atkinson said that Saunders, who will face Leeds United in tomorrow's live BSkyB match at Elland Road, had "put his career first and money second" in making his £2.3 million move from Liverpool on Thursday.

"The player has taken a drop in wages of, I would guess, almost 50 per cent," Atkinson said. "And it's not one where he's taken a drop in one area of his contract, but had it made up somewhere else. He may not thank me for

announcing it and I don't think anyone should be cynical about it. I don't know many players who would have done what he's done."

Saunders was widely believed to have been earning about £8,000 a week after his £2.9 million move from Derby County to Liverpool in the summer of last year. Atkinson said that he was concerned that other clubs would discover Saunders was prepared to take a wage cut. "Some clubs might have been scared off by the thought of the wages they would have to pay him," Atkinson said.

"He's got what I call an old fashioned attitude," he said. "He has really impressed me. Some players on Liverpool terms could sit back in the reserves, take the money and stick out their contract. Deano wants to get on with his career."

The news of Daley's condition has come as a surprise to Atkinson who thought that the player only required some fluid to be removed from his

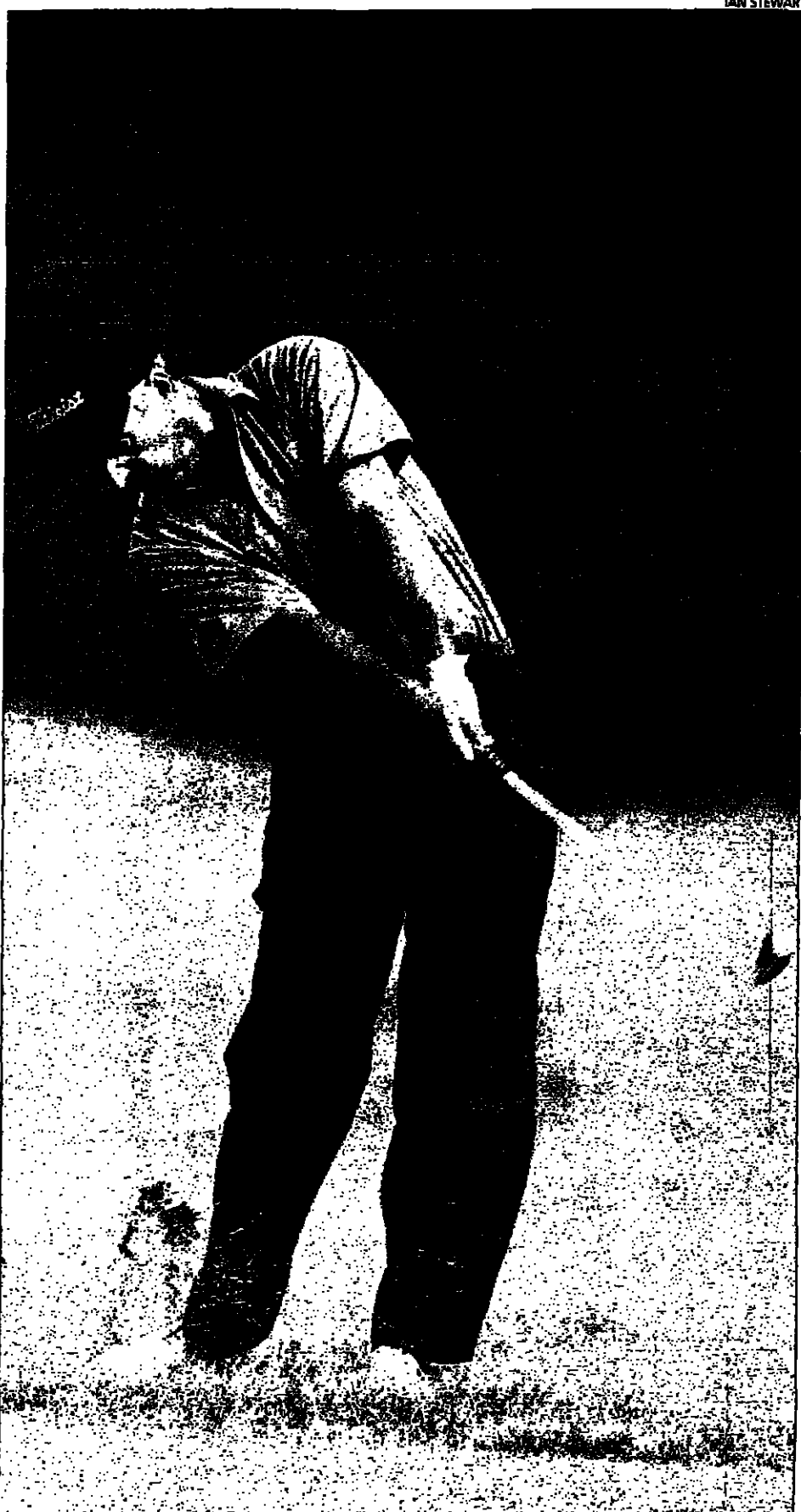
knee. He remained optimistic that the player could be back early in the new year.

With Cyrille Regis also requiring minor surgery and Frank McAvennie released after a two-month trial at the club, Villa's resources in attack are less than plentiful. Dwight Yorke, last season's leading scorer, has been troubled by injury for much of the season and will require a fitness test before tomorrow's match. Saunders, who teams up with Dalian Atkinson, will be playing against Leeds for the fourth time this season.

Atkinson suffered his most humiliating experience as manager of Villa at the hands of Leeds when they champions beat them 4-1 at Villa Park last season. Villa managed to work that one out of their system three weeks ago, when, only a late equaliser by Gary Speed, enabled Leeds to avoid defeat at Villa Park.

Leeds could find themselves distracted by thoughts of their European Cup first round, first leg match in Stuttgart on Wednesday. "The game against Villa is the start of an important and probably tiring week for us with trips to Stuttgart and Southampton," Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, said.

After three games without a win Leeds badly need to get back into a winning habit. Due to a hamstring injury to Rodney Wallace, they are forced to make their first change this season. David Rocastle is still itching to make his first start, following his £2 million transfer from Arsenal, and Gordon Strachan and Steve Hodge are also in contention.



In the swing, James shows his determination and style on the fairway

## Faldo stays on course with a splendid 66

By MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE phenomenal Nick Faldo yesterday remained on course to continue the most successful run of his career, despite slipping on a banana skin when in sight of the halfway lead in the GA European Open at Sunningdale.

His second round of 66 propelled him to within two shots of the Swede, Robert Karlsson (67), who has a 36-hole total of 131, which is nine under par. Faldo, however, walked off the Old course less than satisfied after spoiling a wonderful day at the office by taking six at the 17th.

"It wasn't exactly the finish I had in mind," he said. "I paid for my one bad shot of the day, which seems to be par for me. I'd hit it close all the way round, so I didn't get all I could have done out of the round."

Even so Faldo has only Karlsson and Mark James, who scored 68 to be on 132, ahead of him. He has not finished lower than eighth in his last ten PGA European Tour events and he has won his last two, the Open Championship and the Scandinavian Masters.

If he triumphs again, Faldo will earn £100,000 and stretch his lead at the top of the Volvo Order of Merit to more than £200,000.

Faldo was understandably despondent at marking a six on an otherwise flawless card. He attributed the error to losing his hip action as he attempted to shape a three-wood off the 17th tee. His ball finished in the mound on the right, from where he was compelled to chip out sideways.

Otherwise, he controlled the ball with typical authority in a tricky, swirling wind. Out in 31, he progressed by holing putts of eight feet at both the 14th and 16th holes for holes. Yet he almost compounded his error at the 17th by dropping a shot at the 18th,

| Hole           | Yds  | Par | Hole | Yds  | Par |
|----------------|------|-----|------|------|-----|
| 1              | 494  | 5   | 10   | 473  | 4   |
| 2              | 323  | 4   | 11   | 325  | 4   |
| 3              | 323  | 4   | 12   | 325  | 4   |
| 4              | 161  | 3   | 13   | 185  | 3   |
| 5              | 410  | 4   | 14   | 308  | 4   |
| 6              | 415  | 4   | 15   | 235  | 3   |
| 7              | 408  | 4   | 16   | 443  | 4   |
| 8              | 163  | 3   | 17   | 421  | 4   |
| 9              | 280  | 4   | 18   | 429  | 4   |
| Out            | 3145 | 35  | In   | 3482 | 35  |
| Total yardage: | 6607 |     | Per: | 70   |     |

where he salvaged his par from eight feet after hitting his approach into a bunker.

Karlsson is only one of several single-minded Swedes seeking to revolutionise the European Tour. He feels, like his compatriots, that they have served their apprenticeship. In fact, Karlsson is in only his second full season on the circuit, but he oozes confidence.

"Nick Faldo is the greatest player in the world today," he said. "But I will not be thinking about that tomorrow. I have never spoken to him, and he lives a bit in his own world. The Swedes help each other. We have our own Faldo in Anders Forsbrand. I have my targets, and I've conquered my tantrums. I was never a monster on the course, although I did throw clubs when I was younger, but I've learned to handle all situations with the help of a sports psychologist."

Karlsson is 6ft 5in. He is an excellent striker of the ball, although he is inclined to hit the occasional wayward shot. His short game is much admired by his compatriots and at 23 he is considered a prodigious talent. He had four birdies in his 67 and he kept his score intact with single putts at both the 15th and 16th holes.

James remains a terrific competitor. He has set out his stall to retain his place in Europe's Ryder Cup team. His 68, which included five birdies, reflected his determination. James has an ambivalent relationship with his putter, which once again betrayed him, but his crisp striking kept him in contention.

Mats Lanner, of Sweden, scored 68 to join Faldo in a share of third place on 133. Barry Lane (68) is one shot further adrift.

Severiano Ballesteros, however, made another premature departure. His 73 for 143 led to him missing the halfway cut for the third time in his last four tournaments.

## Robinson to County

NOTTS County last night signed David Robinson, the Peterborough United centre half, for £300,000 and also agreed a £500,000 fee for Ken Charkery, the Peterborough forward, who is considering the move over the weekend.

Robinson's arrival at Meadow Lane is expected to clear the way for Craig Short's departure. County turned down a £2.5 million offer from Blackburn Rovers for Short last month, with Derby County

and Nottingham Forest also in the race to sign the centre half.

Mark Gall, the Brighton forward, will have a second knee operation. Gall, 29, scored 14 goals in 29 appearances last season after his £40,000 signing from Maidstone United, but failed to save Brighton from relegation.

Barry Lloyd, the Brighton managing director, said: "It's a worry. The knee is in poor shape."

Leeds could find themselves distracted by thoughts of their European Cup first round, first leg match in Stuttgart on Wednesday.

"The game against Villa is the start of an important and probably tiring week for us with trips to Stuttgart and Southampton," Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, said.

After three games without a win Leeds badly need to get back into a winning habit. Due to a hamstring injury to Rodney Wallace, they are forced to make their first change this season. David Rocastle is still itching to make his first start, following his £2 million transfer from Arsenal, and Gordon Strachan and Steve Hodge are also in contention.

### LEADING SECOND ROUND SCORES

GB and Ireland unless stated

131: R Karlsson (Swe), 64, 67, 132: M James, 64, 68, 133: N Faldo, 67, 66, M Lanner (Swe), 65, 68, 134: J Hawkes (SA), 76, 58; S Lane, 68, 68, 136: M Farry (Fr), 71, 65; J Spence, 68, 67; B Gallacher, 70, 68; S Luna (Sp), 67, 69; F Nobilo (NZ), 64, 72, 137: J-M Ozziebi (Sp), 70, 67; P Broadhurst, 71, 68; Palmer, 63, 74; P Walton, 66, 71; J Rivero (Sp), 68, 69; M Moreno (Sp), 68, 69.

138: A Bignardi (It), 69, 69; R Clayton, 67, 71; D Gifford, 68, 70; A Johnstone (Zim), 69, 69; P Way, 66.

72, 139: P O'Malley (Aus), 66, 73; V Singh (Fr), 71, 68; J Townsend (US), 71, 68; M Fitz (Fr), 71, 68; R Winchester, 67, 72; S Richardson, 68, 71; P Curry, 69, 70; J Van de Velde (Fr), 70, 69; J Bland (SA), 69, 70; R Davis (Aus), 70, 69.

140: J Quirios (Sp), 70, 70; C Montgomerie, 68, 72; M Herwood (Aus), 71, 69; G Day (US), 71, 69; R Rafferty, 71, 69; B Malley (US), 67, 73; M Mackenzie, 70, 70; R Chapman, 70, 70; D R Jones, 69, 71; E Ede (SA), 70, 69; P Fowler (Aus), 71, 69; P Baker, 70, 70; R Willson, 70, 70; M Moulton, 72, 68; C Mason, 68, 74; B Longmuir, 75, 67; M McLean, 73, 68.

141: W Riley (Aus), 68, 72; C O'Connor Jr, 74, 67; D J Russell, 73, 68; J Payne, 68, 73; A Lyle, 71, 70; P Senior (Aus), 68, 72; H Thiel (Ger), 68, 73; J Sewell, 70, 71; D Smyth, 72, 69; A Sorenson (Den), 71, 70; V Fernandez (Arg), 72, 68; M Roe, 70, 71; C Moody, 68, 72; M Pflero (Sp), 68, 73; M Clayton (Aus), 68, 72.

142: K Trimble (Aus), 72, 70; E Darcy, 72, 70; M Martin (Sp), 71, 71; G Brand Jr, 71, 71; R Hamman (US), 70, 72; M Sunesson (Swe), 70, 72; J Haggman (Swe), 74, 68; C Mason, 68, 74; B Longmuir, 75, 67; M McLean, 73, 68.

## McEnroe pans US Open shuffle

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT, IN NEW YORK

THE incessant shuffling of the crowd, which has always been one of the features of playing tennis in New York, has brought sharp criticism from John McEnroe. A New Yorker himself, McEnroe also called on umpires to be firmer in enforcing the 25-second time limit between points.

"There is no excuse for allowing hundreds of people to mill around at a change-over, and it is up to the United States Tennis Association to do something about it. They should get some people in control there who know what they are doing. You can't blame the ushers."

Nor, McEnroe said, can you blame the crowd. "New York

ers would act the same way as any other spectators if they were told that you have to find a seat in the allotted time. But it all takes away from the tournament and adds to the length of the match."

The delays reached absurdity during the fourth-round match between Ivan Lendl and Boris Becker, which finished after five hours and one minute at almost 1am. Lendl, over the podium, waited patiently for everyone to sit down, extending the length of the changeovers from 90 seconds to two minutes. In addition, both players regularly took more than 25 seconds between points.

"If you have an umpire who doesn't enforce the 25-second rule, you can't blame the players. You can't start enforcing it three or four hours into the match."

The organisers of the US Open have not been helped by the fact that half the fourth-round matches and the quarter-finals in the men's singles have gone the full distance, nor by the erratic weather, but the length of men's matches has confirmed a trend at all the other grand slam events and is starting to concern referees and tournament directors.

Meanwhile, McEnroe did not depart the scene — if this truly is his last grand slam tournament — with one final

title. He and Michael Stich, the Wimbledon champions, were beaten in the semi-finals of the men's doubles by Jim Grabb and Richey Reneberg, who took revenge for their defeat in the memorable final at Wimbledon. They won their first grand slam doubles title yesterday when they beat fellow Americans Kelly Jones and Rick Leach, 3-6, 7-6, 6-3, 6-3.

The first of the titles at the US Open went Australia's way. Mark Woodford and Nicole Provis beating Helena Sukova and Tom Nijssen 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 to win the men's doubles. That might be the only title to escape the grasp of the Americans.

India are scheduled to play four tests and seven one-day internationals in South Africa on a ten-week tour starting late next month. It will be the first official cricket tour of South Africa for 22 years following the dismantling of apartheid and the end of the republic's sporting isolation.

Gloucestershire have dropped vice-captain Bill Athey for their final game with champions Essex starting at Bristol today. "As he wants to leave we felt there was no point in playing him," the Gloucestershire secretary, Philip August, said. Athey has turned down a further two-year contract.

Hugh Morris, a former England opening batsman, has ended speculation about his future by signing a new three-year contract with Glamorgan.

## Germans back Krabbe ban

Darmstadt, Germany: The German athletics federation (DLV) yesterday recommended a four-year ban be imposed on Katrin Krabbe, the double world sprint champion, for failing a drugs test.

Helmut Meyer, the DLV chairman, said that the decision was unanimous. He said Krabbe had violated a spirit of fair play among athletes by taking an illegal muscle-building drug.

The DLV board recommended that a similar ban be imposed on two of Krabbe's team-mates — the world 400 metres silver medal winner, Grit Breuer, and Manuela Derr, a member of the East German team which won gold in the 4 x 400 metres relay at the 1990 European championships. (Reuters)

## ANC gives green light for Indian visit

Johannesburg: The African National Congress (ANC) has given approval for India's cricket tour starting next month. South African cricket chief, All Bacher, said yesterday.

"I have spoken to Steve Tshwete and he told me there had been no change in ANC policy on cricket tours to South Africa. The tour will definitely go ahead," Bacher said. He is managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa.

Tshwete, the chief ANC spokesman on sport, was outraged last month when rugby union authorities violated an agreement with the ANC not to play the national anthem officially at the international against the All Blacks.

The ANC said at the time future rugby tours might be in jeopardy, but the movement

was satisfied with the way the match against Australia was conducted a week later.

Bacher said concern in India that the ANC might call for cancellation of the cricket tour because of South Africa's political turmoil was unfounded.



Bacher: doubt cleared



Mycil soothes the most annoying irritations.



Stops Athlete's Foot In Its Tracks.





# WEEKEND TIMES

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12 1992



## The thrilling reign of racing

Beautiful women, big money, danger, gossip and skulduggery — all these ingredients help to explain the British love affair with the Turf. Now

a vociferous lobby is pushing for Sunday racing, and the odds are shortening in its favour. **Anthony Gardner reports**

There are many reasons to love racing. For the horse it is an exhausting and sometimes fatal pastime with no greater reward than a square meal; for the jockey the risks are the same, but the square meal is only to be dreamt of. The owner and punter face financial ruin, while the trainer takes the blame for not making a silk purse out of a myopic bolt. It is a world peopled by an apparently limitless supply of seedy rogues, where the one inescapable fact of life is that for every horse that wins the Derby, there are 10,000 that would be lucky to finish fifth at Lingfield.

Yet people love it. An average 20 race meetings a week in this country attract more spectators than any other sport except football: on the last Grand National day, £55 million was placed in bets. Next month, thousands of Britons will cross the Channel to watch the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp, and millions will soon be tuning their television sets to a new series of *Trainer*. Such is the sport's popularity that, following a highly successful Sunday meeting at Doncaster in July, the lobby is stronger than ever for a change in the Gambling and Lotteries Act 1963 to permit betting at the race track seven days a week.

What, apart from the undeniable but all-too-rare thrill of seeing your chosen horse go past the post first, is behind this collective madness? The *Trainer* perspective is perhaps easiest to understand. The racing world has everything a prime-time scriptwriter could ask for: speed, suspense, danger, intrigue, money and beautiful women, all in extravagant doses. The shenanigans of the Turf that come to public attention, such as the kidnapping of Shergar, the wayward accounting of Lester Piggott and the bizarre case of the 'sonic gun' intended to put horses off their stride, are merely the tip of the iceberg. No wonder Dick Francis has an apparently inexhaustible supply of bestselling books, and John Francome, another former National Hunt champion, has followed him into print.

Gossips are as well served by the



Horsey people: from left, Lord Weinstock with his son and (centre) trainer Michael Stoute; Luca Cumani's wife Sara and Kahyasi in 1988; the Queen Mother with Marcus Armytage and trainer Kim Bailey in 1990



sport as novelists are. Take the case of Henry Cecil, who continued to run his training yard at Newmarket with the help of his wife Julie even after he had left her for a younger woman; or of Charlie Brooks, whose friendship with the wives of another jockey and of a trainer aroused much interest. More mysteriously, there was last year's blackballing of the Duke of Roxburghe from the Jockey Club, ascribed by some to his inadequate experience of racing administration, but by others to his treatment of his wife, the Duke of Westminster's sister, who petitioned for divorce on the grounds of adultery.

However, the same elements that make a television script appealing may merely irritate those who really love the Turf. Money, for example, creates a superficial glamour, but some trainers now lament the fact that racing has become much more of a business and less of a sport. "In the old days," says Luca Cumani, trainer of Kahyasi, a previous Derby winner, "horses belonged to owner/breeders, didn't cost very much, and were thought of as animals. Now they're thought of more as an investment, and you feel so much money is in your care that you can't be relaxed about it." Mr Cecil misses the era when his colleagues were not too busy to give dinner parties and take houses at Goodwood, while Lord Oaksey has fond memories of jockeys disappearing to the South of France for summers of water-skiing and womanising which would horrify today's workaholic riders.

So far, National Hunt racing has been far less affected by the leap in prices than Flat racing, since most jumping horses are geldings and therefore have no stud value. For this reason, purists consider the winter game much the greater sport. The most eye-catching women at race-meetings generally have a different set of priorities. "Glamorous women are always attracted to where money is," observes Ewa Lewis, the social editor of *Tatler*. "The rich have the possibility to choose the best they can get, and that includes sex at the highest level. In racing you own horses and

you own women; you breed horses and you breed children. There is also a correlation between sex and danger, and there's always danger where horses are concerned: even if you're standing in the paddock you risk being kicked, and that creates a ripple."

According to Mrs Lewis racing in this country is actually much less glamorous than it is in France. "Royal Ascot and Derby Day, and to a lesser extent Goodwood, are parades of fashion; others like Diamond Day and the Guinness aren't that smart." Die-hard enthusiasts cringe at this kind of observation: they have no time for those who treat meetings as an opportunity to show off, and who fail to see that the last race at

Bangor on a wet afternoon has as much potential for excitement as Royal Ascot. "They traipse and they pose," fumed Sir Clement Freud in a recent issue of *The Sporting Life*; "they look this way and that for a camera or a gossip columnist and if none heaves into sight their eyes glaze; it is as if smiles are a finite commodity." In a world which prides itself on its friendliness, there is no greater crime than acting smugly.

"Racing doesn't appeal to everyone," says Sarah St George, an avid race-goer from a leading family of owners, "but for those to whom it does appeal, it cuts across class completely." The veteran commentator Peter O'Sullivan agrees: "It's a terrific leveller. The horse has such an infinite capacity for making fools of people that we all have great sympathy with each other. One moment you think you've cracked it and the next you're walking home with no shoes."

Even between professional rivals, the atmosphere is surprisingly amicable. "There's very little under-clashing," says the trainer Jenny Pitman: one of the strangest sights in racing is that of the jockeys chatting good-humouredly together in the starting stalls before the beginning of a big race. "If you're in a tricky situation, someone will more often than not help you out,"

agrees Marcus Armytage, who in 1990 won both the Grand National and the Whitbread Gold Cup on Mr Frisk. "It's surprisingly rare that you get a punch-up in the changing-room, considering the pressure people are under and that they're starving half the time."

For Mrs Pitman, the great attraction of racing is "being able to work on something you love and care about and getting paid for it". Likewise, for many jump jockeys winning is "merely the icing on the cake," Lord Oaksey says. "Far more important is the physical thrill of getting a horse to do what you want over a fence. It is unequalled. Some people compare it to sex, and I suppose just occasionally that's true."



Ready to take Sunday bets: a tickack man signals the odds

with the participants, the more you enjoy it. Here again National Hunt racing wins by a length, since jumping horses' careers last much longer than Flat racers'. For the men in the stable yard, much of the excitement of the sport derives from the complete lack of proportion between the years it takes to prepare a horse for a big race and the few minutes it takes to run it.

A similar perversity is essential on the gambling side. The less likely a bet is to come off, the more of a thrill there is to be had from it. No serious punter will admit to shooting completely in the dark, but for the biggest gamblers of all — the Robert Sangster and the Lord Weinstocks — who risk hundreds of thousands of pounds in selecting a single animal, the thrill lies in knowing that once the race has started the outcome is beyond their control. In Ireland this contradiction is memorably defined as "the glorious uncertainty".

Finally, there is the spectacle of the race, which lures even those not devoted to gambling. Ms St George rhapsodises over "the marvellous sight of a gleaming, glistening animal in full flight and the jockeys in very bright colours. A lot of racecourses in England are very beautiful, and for people coming from the city much of the attraction is the concept of a day out in the country."

The prospect of this spectacle going under starter's orders seven days a week arouses mixed feelings among the professionals of the racing world. Mr Cecil is firmly against it. "Sunday should be a day for the family," he says. "A lot of people in the industry have wives working as well, and their children are at school, so Sunday is the one day they have together." Lord Oaksey, on the other hand, confesses to "apprehensive enthusiasm" for the notion: "I don't like the idea of adding an extra working day to my week, but I'm 63, so it won't affect me for long. I think it's absolutely right that people should be allowed to bet and race on Sunday if it's the only free day they have and that's what they enjoy doing. As far as the labour side is concerned, working must be voluntary, and stable lads just ought to be paid more."

In the middle ground is Mr Cumani, who favours a change in the law with one strict proviso: "What we need to do is increase the rewards for people who invest in racing, because the gap between what they have to spend and the potential returns from winnings is enormous. But if it's just an extra day's work for everybody with no increase in prize money, I'm not interested in it."

Most people seem to consider change inevitable, pointing to the fact that this is the only country in Europe where Sunday racing is not permitted. Captain Nicholas Beaumont, the clerk of the course at Ascot, takes this view, but warns that the Cumani camp is likely to be disappointed. "I don't think that it will be the great bonanza people imagine. A Saturday-to-Sunday meeting would be much better than a Friday-to-Saturday one, because Friday is a bad day unless the racing is in the evening; but at the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe they get a lot of people for Sunday and very few for Saturday."

### RACING DIARY

● Today: The St Leger at Doncaster. Last of the five Flat Classics. Admission £5, £12 or £22.

● September 26: The Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot. Centrepiece of the Festival of British Racing Day. £3, £11.50, £18.

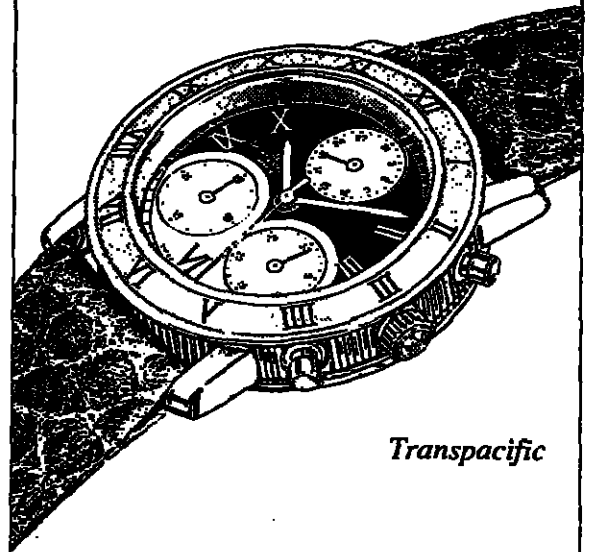
● October 3: The William Hill Cambridge Handicap at Newmarket. £4, £10, £20.

● October 4: The Ciga Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp. Admission to continental race meetings is much cheaper than to British ones, but it costs rather more to get there.

● October 16: The Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket. £3, £8, £12.

● October 17: The Dubai Champion Stakes and Tote Cessurewitch at Newmarket. £4, £10, £20.

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### GETTING AWAY, PAGES 8,9



In high summer 900 people a day flock to Beatrix Potter's house, but autumn revives the sheer poetry of the Lakeland scenery

### MY PERFECT WEEKEND, PAGE 11



Where does Joanna Lumley want to go armed with field glasses and a Tibetan Buddha — but without A.N. Wilson?

### OUT OF TOWN, PAGE 13



Simon Barnes packs his Swiss army penknife (sticks for the cleaving of) and clothes (non-white) for two months in the Zambian bush



## THEATRE

## LONDON

**THE ALCHMIST:** David Bradley and Jonathan Hyde nimbly conning the town in Sam Mendes's very funny production of Ben Jonson's

**ANGELS IN AMERICA:** Thrilling performances in Tony Kushner's fascinating state-of-the-Union drama on AIDS, religion, politics, everything. National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Mon-Wed, 7.15pm, mat Tues, 1.30pm.

**COLQUHOUN AND MACRYDE:** Lindsay Posner directs John Byrne's breakneck comedy about the two artists, painting the town in post-war Soho. Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Previews from Thurs, 8pm; opens Sept 22, 8pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat (from Sept 26), 4pm.

**DEATH AND THE MAIDEN:** Ariel Dorfman's scorching psychological drama on the longing for revenge. Penny Downie, Danny Webb and Hugh Ross make up the cast. Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm.

**GRAND HOTEL:** Musical barley sugar Berlin in the Twenties. Sentimental, American, entertaining. Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (071-580 9562). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm.

**FROM A JACK TO A KING:** Witty and stylish version of Macbeth's climb to the top, set in the world of rock bands and packed with Stripes songs. Ambassadors, West Street, London WC2 (071-836 6111). Mon-Thurs, 8.15pm, Fri and Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm.

**HAMLET:** For one month only, Alan Rickman and a splendid cast in the Danish play. Tour follows to Bradford, Nottingham, Barrow-in-Furness and Telford, Georgia. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (081-748 3354). Previews Tues, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm.

**IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY:** New Ray Cooney comedy, likely to put a new twist on the familiar misunderstandings. With John Quayle, Sandra Dickinson and Cooney himself. Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Preview tonight, 8pm; opens Mon, 7pm. Then Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5.30pm.

**KINGS:** Alan Howard with Christopher Logue perform Logue's vivid account of Books One and Two of Homer's *Iliad*. All three performances sold out but three more are scheduled for Oct 27-29. National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Thurs, 8pm.

**MEDIA:** Diana Rigg plays Euripides's witty wife bent on revenge. New translation by Alistair Elliot; Jonathan Kent directs. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Previews tonight, Mon, Tues, 8pm; opens Wed, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm.



Thirsty for revenge: Diana Rigg stars in *Media*

**ORLANDO:** Hot from Edinburgh, Red Shift's version of Virginia Woolf's fantasy. Intriguing but complicated by adding the story of the Ricca's lovers. Lyric Studio, King Street, W6 (071-741 2311). Previews Tues, 8pm; opens Wed, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4.30pm.

**PHILADELPHIA, HERE I COME!** Brian Friel's affectionate comedy of an Irish emigrant and his carpenter after ego. A revival to be cherished. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm.

**ROMSHERHOLME:** Francesca Annis and Conn Redgrave struggle to be free of the dead hold of the past. Annie Castellan directs. Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 8363). Previews from Thurs, 7.30pm; opens Sept 23, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm and from Oct 14, Wed, 2.30pm.

**SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION:** Stockard Channing as the rich New Yorker transfixed by a black con artist in John Guare's fine play on human interdependence. Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm.

**SOMEONE WHO'LL WATCH OVER ME:** Excellent playing by Alec

McCowen, Hugh Quarshie and Stephen Rea as Benoit hostages in Frank McGuinness's play, now transferred from Hampstead. Vaudeville, The Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats, Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm.

**VALENTINE'S DAY:** Romantic musical comedy based on Shaw's *You Never Can Tell* by Benny Green and Denis King. First seen at Chichester and still with Edward Petherbridge as the sublimely benign waiter. Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5063). Previews tonight, Mon-Wed, 8pm; opens Thurs, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats (from Sept 23), Wed, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

**WATER MUSIC:** Soho Theatre Company opens its new home with Lyndon Morgan's oddball Romeo and Juliet story set in a Sixties fairground. Cockpit, Gateforth Street, NW8 (071-402 5081). Previews from Wed, 8pm; opens Sept 21, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm.

**WIT'S END:** Griboedov's 1824 satire on high society. Famous in Russia, analysed in depth by Stanislawski yet a British premiere. New End, 27 New End, NW2 (071-794 0022). Previews from Tues, 7.30pm; opens Fri, 7.30pm. Then Tues-Sun, 7.30pm, mat Sun, 3.30pm.

**A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE:** Philip Prowse's triumphant RSC production. Then Carole as a callous aristocrat in Wilde's social melodrama faced with wit. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm.

**REGIONAL**

**LEATHERHEAD:** Bill Kenwright applies his Midas touch to Robin—*Prince of Sherwood*, musical starring Michael Halloway as the man with the nifty bow. National tour follows.

**THE WITCHELLS:** Church Street (0372-377777). Previews Tues, 7.30pm; opens Wed, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Wed, 7.30pm, Thurs-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm.

**SOUTHAMPTON:** Building Blocks, new comedy by Bob Larbey (of *The Good Life* and *A Fine Romance*), reveals the terrible consequences of allowing a builder into your home. Stars Christopher Timothy. Nuffield, University Road (0703-671771). Opens Thurs, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm, mat Sat (Oct 10), 2.30pm.

## FILM

**LES AMANTS DU PONT NEUF** (18): Les Caras's love to Paris and a punk bum's love for a young artist going blind. Tense in spurs, and a real movie movie. Denis Lavant, Juliette Binoche. Lumière (071-836 0691).

**ALIEN 3** (18): Sigourney Weaver fights another alien infestation in deep space. Drab and downbeat. Charles Dance, director. David Fincher. MGM Chelsea (071-352 5966).

**MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5966) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279/379 7025) **Odeons:** Kensington (0426 914666) West End (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3303).

**BOB ROBERTS** (15): Lively spoof documentary about a right-wing folk-singer's dirty battle for a seat in the US Senate. Entertaining directorial debut by actor Tim Robbins. Gato (071-727 4043) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5966) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeons:** Haymarket (0426 915353) Kensington (0426 914666) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3966) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3303).

**CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS — THE DISCOVERY** (PG): Pin-up navigator (George Clooney) discovers the New World. Silly juvenile romp, with a routine Marlon Brando cameo. Rabby direction from John Glen. Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) Leicester Square (0426 915683).

**DANZON:** Mexican telephone operator searches for her lost dancing partner. Intoxicating music, good atmosphere; otherwise, a film going nowhere. Director, Manu Navarro. Metro (071-437 0757).

**HTLER: A FILM FROM GERMANY:** Hans Jürgen Syberberg's seven-hour epic from 1977 about Hitler's grip on the German psyche. Hard work, but there is nothing like it in cinema history. ICA Cinema (071-930 3647).

**HOUSEHITTER** (PG): Geraldine Hawin moves into architect Steve Martin's dream house and poses as his wife. A few bright spots; mostly very trying. Director, Frank Oz. Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279/379 7025) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Portland Street** (071-430 0631) **Whiteleys** (071-792 3303).

**WATERLAND** (15): Jeremy Irons as the history teacher haunted by his Fenland childhood. Brave but failed attempt to film Graham Swift's complex novel. Director, Stephen Gyllenhaal. Curzon West End (071-439 4805).

**WHITE SANDS** (15): The FBI, black marketers and a small-town cop chase each other's tails in New Mexico. An impenetrable plot, but lively. With Willem Dafoe, Mickey Rourke; director, Roger Donaldson. MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148).

**DANCE**

**ROMEO AND JULIET:** The Scottish Ballet offers its contribution to this year's plethora of *Romeo and Juliet* ballets. The company is unique in Britain in having in its repertoire John Cranko's version of Prokofiev's Shakespeare tale, which was first created for Carla Fracci back in 1958. This revival by the Glasgow company should prove one of the most popular offerings on its current tour. Lyceum Theatre, Tudor Square, Sheffield (0742 769922), today, 2pm and 7.45pm.

**PLAYHOUSE THEATRE:** 18 Greenside Place, Edinburgh (031-557 2550). Tues next Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, next Sat, 2.30pm.



Hymn to Paris: Juliette Binoche as Michele with Klaus-Michael Gruber in *Les Amants Du Pont Neuf* (see Film)

**JUICE** (15): Friendship and violence among ghetto youths. Superior sample of the new black cinema, directed by Spike Lee's cameraman, Ernest R. Dickerson. Onar Spz, Tupac Shakur, MGM Portland Street (071-930 0631) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031).

**KNIGHT MOVES** (18): Somebody goes on a murder spree during a chess tournament; is it champion player Christopher Lambert? Tawdry thriller. Diane Lane, Kathy direction by Carl Scherkl. MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-930 8800) **Odeons:** Kensington (0426 914666) West End (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3303).

**LETHAL WEAPON 3** (15): Rousing comedy and mayhem with L.A. cops Riggs and Murtaugh. Mel Gibson, Danny Glover, Joe Pesci; director, Richard Donner. MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons:** Kensington (0426 914666) Mezzanine (0426 915683) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3303).

**THE POWER OF ONE** (12): Orphaned white South African child develops a social conscience. Jumbled epic, coarsely handled by director John G. Avildsen. Stephen Dorff, Morgan Freeman, Armin Mueller-Stahl. Barbican (071-638 8891) Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Empire (071-497 9999) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Portland Street** (071-430 0631) **Whiteleys** (071-792 3303).

**THE PLAYER** (15): Dazzling satire on Hollywood, directed by L.A. cop Riggs and Murtaugh. Mel Gibson, Danny Glover, Joe Pesci; director, Richard Donner. MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons:** Kensington (0426 914666) Mezzanine (0426 915683) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3303).

**LOVERS** (18): In Franco's Spain, Victoria Abril deals her lodger's intended marriage. Excellent tale of mad love, expertly mounted by director Vicente Aranda. MGM Piccadilly (071-437 3561) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772).

**THE FALL** (15): Dazzling satire on Hollywood, directed by L.A. cop Riggs and Murtaugh. Mel Gibson, Danny Glover, Joe Pesci; director, Richard Donner. MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons:** Kensington (0426 914666) Mezzanine (0426 915683) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3303).

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**CLASSICAL**

**LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS:** It's that time of year again. Dame Kiri Te Kanawa does the honours in *Rule, Britannia!*, but before the familiar variations on a triumphalist theme at the end of the evening, there is plenty of real musical interest: arias by Massenet, Korngold, Puccini and Catalani, Sir Peter Maxwell Davies's *An Orkney Wedding with Sunrise*, and a performance of Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No 2, with one of the composer's finest interpreters, the Russian pianist Tatiana Nikolayeva, as the soloist.

**ALBERT HALL, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (071-823 9998), tonight, 7.30pm.**

**LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA:** The LPO begins its South Bank season with an epic concert of music by Beethoven (Piano Concerto No 4, with Maurizio Pollini the soloist), Schumann (Symphony No 2, Stravinsky (Symphony of Wind Instruments), Britten (Prelude and Fugue for Strings) and Prokofiev (Suite, The Love of Three Oranges). Peter Weiser-Mödt conducts. Note the early starting time.

**Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), Thurs, 6.30pm.**

**THE POWER OF ONE** (12): Orphaned white South African child develops a social conscience. Jumbled epic, coarsely handled by director John G. Avildsen. Stephen Dorff, Morgan Freeman, Armin Mueller-Stahl. Barbican (071-638 8891) Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Empire (071-497 9999) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Portland Street** (071-430 0631) **Whiteleys** (071-792 3303).

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**compelling works, newly translated by Jeremy Sams. Cast and production team need no recommendation: Nicholas Hytner directs, Richard Hudson designs, Mark Eider conducts. Josephine Barston, making an eagerly awaited return, sings Leonora. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161), Wed, 7pm. Further performances through September and October.**

**TOSCA:** John Cox's reliable production is revived, with Luciano Pavarotti (who has sung the role only once before at the ROH, in 1977) as Cavaradossi for the first five performances. The young American soprano Elizabeth Holveque makes her British debut in the title role. Zubin Mehta conducts all but the final three performances. Two of the performances (Wednesday and next Saturday) will be relayed on the screen in the Piazza.

**Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-240 1066/911), tonight, Mon, Wed, 7.30pm. Further performances until Oct 10.**

**ROCK**

**THE FALL:** Code Selfish shows Mark E. Smith and his mavericks at their creative best. No doubt



Homeward bound: Mark E. Smith heading The Fall

they will pull out all the stops for this home-town performance. The Ritz Ballroom, Manchester (061-2364355), Tues, 7pm.

**JUNE TABORE:** The superb singer is back with another excellent album, *Angel Tiger*, to her name. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), Thurs, 7.45pm.

**SUEDE:** The glam rock darlings embark on some warm-up gigs before an extensive UK tour where they will defend their Melody Maker moniker of best new band in Britain. Buzz Club, West End Centre,

**EXHIBITIONS**

**THE PAINTED NUDE:** Up until the time of Ety in the early 19th century the nude in Britain generally required an excuse, however transparent, in the shape of a subject from classical myth or a Biblical story like Sushanna and the Elders. But from then on the nude in painting gradually became accepted in its own right, until today it can be the major preoccupation of a painter like Lucian Freud without raised eyebrows. This display at the Tate, the second in the *Crosscurrents* series, charts the history of this change from the gallery's own collection.

**Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (071-821 1313), Mon-Sat, 10am-5.30pm, Sun, 2-5.30pm, until Dec 27.**

**PAINTING IN BRITAIN — GAUGUIN AND FRIENDS:** Gauguin is famous, his associates during his Breton years (1886-94) much less so. But several of them are of considerable interest in their own right, and this exhibition, by Bernard, Paul Sérusier, Charles Filiger and Georges Lacombe have all recently been given major shows of their own. They are all represented here. No denying the special potency of Gauguin's personal vision, but the lesser luminaries still have their own radiance.

**Laing Art Gallery, Highgate Place, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (091-232 6989), Tues-Fri, 10am-5.30pm, Sat, 10am-4.30pm, Sun, 2.30-5.30pm, until Oct 11.**

**OLD MASTER DRAWINGS:** The Ashmolean has one of the greatest collections of Old Master drawings in the world. Normally only a small percentage is on show, but the European Arts Festival has persuaded the museum to bring out some of its riches. This amazing selection, first seen in Rome last year, includes five Michelangelo, five Raphael and two Leonardo, as well as works by Rembrandt, Rubens, Dürer, Claude, Watteau, Holbein, Gainsborough and Rowlandson. Ashmolean Museum, Oxford (0865 278000), Tues-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 2-4pm, until Oct 11.

**MANET — THE EXECUTION OF MAXIMILIAN:** The immediate occasion of this exhibition is the cleaning and restoration of the National Gallery's own Manet of the execution of the emperor Maximilian of Mexico. Also on display are other Manet paintings with political overtones, borrowed from as far afield as Boston, Mannheim, Chicago, Zurich and Paris.



# Two men and a difficult lady

Matthew d'Ancona tries not to laugh at the old sitcom formula of cohabiting bachelors with girlfriend problems



WHERE would British television comedy be without men who cohabit? An odd thought, I know, but consider the sitcom greats that have binged on the simple device of men living together in a confined space. From *Steptoe and Son* to *The Young Ones*, via *Porridge*, *Only Fools and Horses*, *Open All Hours*, even the sketches in *Eric and Ernie's Flat* when two or more men are gathered in one place, viewers tend to laugh.

I laughed quite a lot at last night's first episode of *Terry and Julian* (Channel 4), the new Julian Clary vehicle, which promises to plumb new depths of tastelessness and tack. At the same time, I felt I should try to rise above it all. But this is Clary's talent: he knows you feel you shouldn't laugh at such crude banality. And you know he knows. So you laugh even more.

To the familiar recipe of two guys, a bachelor flat and a difficult girlfriend is added the twist, straight between the eyes, of Clary's outrageous campiness. No one on earth can say "poo-ee" with as much panache. Dry ice billows at his feet, costumes change with abandon, and a boring lounge becomes a baroque throne-room with a snap of the fingers. Like all good comedy, *Terry and Julian* revels in reversals of power relations: in this case, a feminine man taking control of all he surveys.

Clary's foil is Terry (Lee Simpson), a straight and suburban type who is liberal enough to take on an exotic flatmate but square enough to miss the point of his asides. "You don't just shuffle about in beige clothing," Clary advises his new landlord. "People want elegance, cheekbones, good wholesome entertainment — and the occasional homosexual mincing about in full make-up."

This may be a universal law of comedy but it is one observed with particular fervour by Clary's faithful audience, who queue up to be hauled on to the stage and into the plot by their idol. Of course, too much ritual humiliation simply makes the toes curl, and Clary's mock quiz show *Sticky Moments* suffered from severe overkill in this department. But, once in a half-hour slot, the technique works well and nicely blends the sitcom genre with Clary's cabaret material. You are never allowed to forget why you

## TV REVIEW

switched on in the first place. Clary, of course, faces the same career dilemma as the other "alternative" comedians who spent the Thatcher era tearing comedy from the grasp of Bernard Manning and Benny Hill and making it politically correct: where next and how best to grow old? Ben Elton may still be ranting about *New Men and Ties*, but his fellow pioneers Ade Edmondson and Rik Mayall have essentially gone back to the Hancock formula in their bleak, sepia-toned series, *Bottom*. Likewise, after a few years as the acceptable face of comic subversion, Clary has now seized the more conventional mantle of Frankie Howerd as the king of innuendo — from avant-garde to double entendre. Sitcom of one kind or another was bound to follow.

In this respect, *Men Behaving Badly* (Tuesday, ITV) has much in common with *Terry and Julian*, in that it started life as a showcase for Harry Enfield, a scriptwriter for most of the alternative comics who then made a name in his own right as a stand-up. And — surprise, surprise — it also revolves around two guys, a bachelor flat and a difficult girlfriend.

Sadly, Enfield's daffy character Dermot has now left the series and his landlord Gary (Martin Clunes) is to be replaced by the more Chippendale Tony (Neil Morrissey). Tony is a bit gormless, a tall, dark sort who wears American baseball jackets and works in the record industry (but where exactly? See episode two for punch line, I expect).

Evidently, the running gag is going to be that the newcomer is not as strait-laced as he seems. The female characters may swoon on cue at his vulnerable sincerity, but he is really just as weird as his predecessor: witness the toy light-sabre in his bedroom and the pig's head in his carrier bag.

Martin Clunes makes most of the running as the pseudo-yuppie pompous ass, who calls his three-piece suite a "U-shaped seating amenity" and looks his rebellious secretary in a cupboard ("Firm but fair, George, firm but fair"). The trouble is, the contrast between the two lead characters is not stark enough to make for comic tension.



Odd couples: David Troughton and Peter Davison in *A Very Polish Practice*, and Lee Simpson and Julian Clary as *Terry and Julian*

Overgrown adolescents are only funny if there is conflict in the air and, as odd couples go, Tony and Gary are not particularly odd.

Watching *Men Behaving Badly* also made me wonder why jokes about tight trousers are so ubiquitous. Perhaps there is a secret manual of cabalistic knowledge to which comedy writers refer when looking for a throwaway laugh: *Tight Trousers*, *Dead Parrots* and *Banana Skins* — 1,001 ways to save a sitcom scene.

Certainly the sight of David Troughton as Dr Bob Buzzard stranded in a Warsaw hotel wearing a tailored suit jacket and a ridiculously snug pair of jeans was one of the best moments in Sunday's *A Very Polish Practice* (BBC2). But then the mishaps of Buzzard, the upwardly mobile, downwardly tumbled GP from Lowlands University, were always the choicest pleasures in *A Very*

*Peculiar Practice*, the campus comedy series which inspired this spin-off set in Poland.

At Lowlands, he and his winsome colleague Dr Stephen Daker (Peter Davison) were the true odd couple, symbols respectively of hapless greed and hapless liberalism. This time round, Buzzard was in town as salesman for Hamburger International, out to make a killing, as it were, selling medical supplies on the new free market — not least the "Buzzard Marrow", a cut-price operating table developed in the Philippines with "shiny bits to appeal to the peasant mentality".

Daker, meanwhile, was struggling at a hospital which had run out of pain-killers, and with a wife, Grete (Joanna Kansas), who had run out of patience. Marital trauma followed with the re-appearance of Grete's old flame, a black-market millionaire determined to win her back. A standard love triangle, and

pretty mundane stuff compared to the intricate plots that writer Andrew Davies used to dream up for the more claustrophobic redbrick setting of the series.

But who cares? This was an unmissable chance to re-new acquaintance with the *Very Peculiar* universe and all its oddities, and a reminder that you don't have to shout as loudly as Ben Elton to poke fun at New Right politics. Davies' theme was once again the threat of rampant materialism to common decency and enlightened values, embodied in health care and higher education, transposed from the British welfare state to post-Communist Eastern Europe.

"Sometimes I forget, we are all revisionists now," murmured Daker's boss Dr Krapowski, who still believed in Marx but coveted the "Tweed Harris" suits that came

with western business. One form of corruption had given way effortlessly to another, the rhetoric of liberation no more than a memory. The sinister men lurking at the airport were black market agents rather than secret policemen.

Yet Davies' writing is far too off-centre to be preachy. Beneath the political message there is a dark and vaguely surreal sense of human entropy, of inevitable decline. Dr Daker and his wife, reunited implausibly at the airport, might ride off into the sunset in their little hatchback, but one felt their happiness was built on fragile foundations. The *Very Peculiar* universe belongs to Dr Buzzard ("I get these sudden lurches into despair from time to time") and the two nuns who linger at its fringes. Which, oddly, is why it is all so funny. Perhaps laughter rings loudest at the edge of oblivion.

● Lynne Truss is on holiday

## TV PREVIEW

● **Casualty** (Saturday, BBC1, 8.10pm) In spite of the occasional grisly moment, *Casualty* really does seem to appeal to everyone, and not just those who have had stitches sewn in by the NHS. I can think of at least two distinguished university academics who will be thrilled at its return tonight, with new characters to up the tempo and a row over an organ transplant. Video machines will be whirring, and rightly so.

Holby Hospital has now opted out of NHS control, a plot development which augurs well for lots of top-notch rows in the medicine cupboard. Most of the emotional fall-out of this momentous step will doubtless land on the epaulettes of Charlie Fairhead (Derek Thompson), whose sturdiness has probably convinced a whole generation of small boys to be nurses rather than train drivers. A must-see for ambulance-chasers everywhere.

● **Who Needs a Heart?** (Monday, Channel 4, 10pm) Stand by for the year of Malcolm X, and a torrent of books and programmes in the slipstream of Spike Lee's forthcoming film biography of the radical black activist. Anyone eager to arm themselves before the pundits get to it should try this independent feature about the black power movement in 1960s Britain and its leader Michael X, which went down a treat at last year's London Film Festival.

● **Noddy** (Thursday, BBC1, 4pm) The banning of Billy Bunter from the airwaves is bad enough, but what will an updated version of Enid Blyton's most famous creation be like? The transition of Toyland's boy hero to the 1990s in this 13-part animated series promises to be a rough ride. Pruning the dodgy bits of the *Noddy* stories (golliwogs and the spanking teacher Miss Rap) was probably wise, but die-hard fans may feel cheated.

● **Crime Story** (Friday, ITV, 9pm) Social historians of the future will have a thing or two to say about our taste for reconstructed crime. The idea is pious enough — to catch villains using the power of mass television. But the reality is often that the audience is able to experience a grisly re-run of the crime on a mere pretext.

This new series will mix dramatised versions of old case histories with appeals for public help with unsolved crimes. Some will say that the end justifies the means: a captive audience may turn up new information. Others will find the rewind to murders of the past ghoulis in the extreme. Tonight: the 1979 Case of the Handless Corpse.

M.D.A.

Record reviews: Suzanne Vega, the Jay McShann band and a symphony of classical music

## Vega stretches to her sharpest yet

Until the British remix duo DNA hijacked Suzanne Vega's a cappella "Tom's Diner" and transformed its Edward Hopper-like observations of Manhattan street life into one of last summer's ubiquitous dance-floor anthems, the 33-year-old New Yorker's image was indelible from her physical appearance: frail, pale and interesting. The release on Monday of a fourth studio album, *99.9F*, should further mutate this misleading stereotype, however.

Recorded in collaboration with the rock producer Mitchell Froom, it represents her sharpest work to date, juxtaposing acoustic folk with minimal dance beats and industrial noise, in a mood of happy self-confidence.

The recent single "In Liverpool", a gently rolling ballad, provided an unhelpful flag to Vega's new direction. Its selection above several other more challenging tracks (try "Fat

## ROCK

Man & Dancing Girl" for size, or "Blood Makes Noise") suggests that her record company may be nervous of scaring off her core audience. She herself appears to have no such qualms and seems to relish the opportunity Froom's quirky settings have given her to stretch beyond her familiar styles and concerns.

"As Girls Go", a musing on sexual identity, is the perfect example: specific enough in its detail to induce a shiver, yet sympathetic and far from tasteless, it represents a balancing act that few other performers would have dared attempt, and which fewer still could have hoped to carry off so adeptly. Like *99.9F* itself, it is clever, controlled, engagingly human, and helps to confirm Vega as a big-league talent.

ALAN JACKSON



Master of a balancing act: self-confident Suzanne Vega

## Call of the budding Bird

## JAZZ

When musicians first heard the young, unnamed saxophonist who played on live dance band broadcasts by the Jay McShann orchestra, many were desperate to find out his identity. One story tells how members of Charlie Parker's big band were so intrigued after catching a solo on the wireless that they dashed from their own concert to hear the rest of McShann's show, 20-odd miles away in Harlem.

The saxophonist's name, they discovered, was Charlie Parker. A legend was about to be born. Even now, 50 years later, it is possible to share in the sense of excitement by listening to Parker's wild and all too brief sorties on *Blues from Kansas City* (MCA/GRP 16142), a compilation of McShann's studio recordings from the early 1940s.

One unfortunate side-effect of this fascination with the budding Parker is that it relegated McShann to the shadows, when he deserves recognition as one of the great blues and boogie-based jazz pianists. He has a respectable list of compositions to his credit as well, "Pore Day Rider" and "Confessin' the Blues" among them.

At its peak McShann's loose-limbed band was a rival to the Basie swing orchestra. This disc also devotes ample space to McShann's dashing small-group work.

Twelve-bars with a more contemporary gloss are explored on *Taj's Blues* (Columbia 471660), a selection of Taj Mahal's output from his Columbia debut in 1967 to a sensuous solo rendition of "East Bay Woman" from 1973.

The dozen songs form an enticing introduction to his career, even though it downplays his Caribbean roots. File next to Robert Cray.

Dedicated: Natalia Gutman

ible recital record (his first for EMI, CDC 7 54419 2) which, imaginatively accompanied by Kathryn Stott, includes some marvellous, sensitive and intuitive duetting in Debussy's *Premier Rhapsodie* and Poulenc's *Clarinet Sonata*, and a truly virtuosic performance of Weber's *Grand Duo Concertant*.

HILARY FINCH

CLIVE DAVIS

## From numbness to cello ecstasy

After two first Prom performances of works by Alfred Schnittke this summer comes a further piece of recorded documentation. The Cello Concerto No 1, first recorded last year by Tzafra Thoden, is at last performed by its dedicatee, Natalia Gutman (EMI CDC 7 54443), and a revealing piece of musical history it makes, too. The concerto was sketched before the composer's like and completed a year during his convalescence. Gutman's hands, it is not tape too fanciful to hear his ggle, stave by stave; and it is, as much professional as personal, to find what there is to say, and how to say it. The cello struggles out of a numbness for some sort of candour, be it melodic or not. Not until the end of slow movement does she release the cymbal clearer air. She bounces to a typical Shostakovich march, only to crawl back

## CLASSICAL

into the concluding largo. Here, though, through a long ascent, strenuous with double-stopping, a sense of final ecstasy is achieved.

The London Philharmonic, under Kurt Masur, makes its formidable contribution in a recording in which sound is spread more effectively than in the comparatively boxy accompaniment to the Schumann A Minor Cello Concerto.

For a real *Lied ohne Worte* there are Lynn Harrell's deft transcriptions for cello of two of Mendelssohn's Salon pieces, at the heart of a robust all-Mendelssohn recital (Decca 430 198-2). The cello becomes a quite different creature in Harrell's hands. Even in arch romantic writing, he never allows the bow to glide where he can cut out a swift, energetic line: his deep bows strokes bring panache to the little B Flat Major Sonata Mendels-

sohn wrote for his brother. The more substantial and testing D Major Sonata rings out with the glee of the Italian Symphony and Harrell leaps into it with the pianist Bruno Canino bounding into his footprints. Canino is the prime mover in the following little impromptu, picked by some witty cello pizzicato, before Harrell again muscles in on the tune.

With the *Variations concertantes* (not quite as *serieuses* as those Mendelssohn wrote for piano) this is a refreshingly bold contribution to the justifiably growing catalogue of Mendelssohn chamber music. Back to Schumann again in a performance of the *Fantasiestücke*, which really puts fantasy first and virtuosically second. Michael Collins turns his clarinet to the dream-like quality of the work, brightly focusing its climax point without ever diminishing its essentially elusive character.

The piece opens an irresist-



Dedicated: Natalia Gutman

ible recital record (his first for EMI, CDC 7 54419 2) which, imaginatively accompanied by Kathryn Stott, includes some marvellous, sensitive and intuitive duetting in Debussy's *Premier Rhapsodie* and Poulenc's *Clarinet Sonata*, and a truly virtuosic performance of Weber's *Grand Duo Concertant*.

HILARY FINCH

CLIVE DAVIS



## GUILTY SECRETS: BRIAN GLOVER

"I always watch *Video View*. I've never bought a video in my life, but I stay up until the middle of the night to watch it because I'm secretly in love with the presenter, Mariella Frostrup. An extremely attractive woman, she has a deep, sexy voice, wonderful blonde hair and thick, pouting lips. She makes Madonna look like a packet of cornflakes. During the programme she criticises movie videos and sometimes she's quite nasty about them, which I enjoy. The programme is on ITV after midnight and necessitates sitting through *Prisoner: Cell Block H*, so I must be addicted!"

● Brian Glover is appearing in the national tour of *Annie Get Your Gun*.



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# Manchester, a city on its toes

Indignant cries ran through Manchester earlier this week after the publication of a survey in which American businessmen named it their least-coveted location, after Warsaw. Order was partially restored when Radio 4's *Today* programme interviewed its own Brian Redhead, champion of the northwest, who briskly denounced the findings as "nonsense".

Manchestrians will tell you that Manchester is enjoying a glorious renaissance. The business community is active, new buildings are under construction, redevelopment has been imaginative — notably in the Castledale area with its array of canals and warehouses — and the gentle hand of progress has restored trams to the city centre. The city will again bid for the Olympics, and a new concert hall is on the way, so that the Halle Orchestra under its new music director Kent Nagano can rival the Birmingham/Simon Rattle success story.

Nor is this just a question of civic pomp and face-lifting. "Certainly it's the cultural life of Manchester which enables companies to get top executives to move out of London and come up here," says Braham Murray, one of the artistic directors of Manchester's Royal Exchange Theatre.

This may sound like provincial tub-thumping, but a clutch of arts events supports Murray's enthusiasm. The Boddington's Manchester Festival of Arts and Television began yesterday and runs for three weeks — all the more compellingly after securing a record £1.2 million three-year commitment from Boddington's, the local brewery. Earlier this year the city hosted an innovative Festival of Expressionism, and Manchester has been designated Britain's City of Drama by the Arts Council, which will mean a year-long jamboree in 1994.

Is Manchester about to be-

Still bidding for the next Olympics but one, Manchester is preparing to be the 1994 British City of Drama. Andy Lavender investigates



Worth celebrating: Valentina Yakunina as Nastasia in *The Idiot*, premiered at the Royal Exchange in 1991

come Britain's second home of theatre? "What's to demote it?" asks Murray. He is only half-joking. "I know that the audience here is theatre-hungry, but I don't know where the theatre-hungry audience is in London. Manchester is very alive. You can park. It's cheaper. And the Royal Exchange — the building itself — is the image of something which London just doesn't have: an exciting space on a major scale that people can come to without feeling they've got to get

dressed up, and yet still have a huge sense of occasion." Indeed, at one point the Royal Exchange was planning to give London exactly that, by using the Roundhouse in Chalk Farm as its London showbase. That happy piece of reverse imperialism may yet happen, despite the recent sale of the Roundhouse.

Murray agrees that points-scoring against London is only a minor concern. The real pleasure lies in the fact that the City of Drama nomination

makes concrete something that has been happening in Manchester for some years.

"The City of Drama year is about the renaissance of the greater Manchester area through culture," explains Christopher Barron, director of Manchester City of Drama 1994. "Manchester isn't naive. It's a very pragmatic city, and very forward-looking."

This is far from the Grand-grind image of bricks and smoke, or the City of the Future which he wrote his *Condi-*

tion of the Working Classes in England. If you believe the arts administrators, Manchester is now a haven of niceness, with a healthy arts scene at its centre. Everybody talks to everybody else the Labour council liaises with the development quango, the arts institutions are chummy with local businesses.

The city seems well set for its year of drama. In addition to touring companies, mainstream houses and the Royal Exchange, Manchester can

boast the respected Library and Contact theatres, the Green Room, and new venues such as the NIA centre, devoted to black performance, and Expressions, geared to the presentation of international fringe performance. The year of drama promises to raise the pitch. "It's caught the imagination," says Murray. "Early indications from people who have been approached for sponsorship is that they see it as part of the regeneration of Manchester, the overall drive to make Manchester one of the major European cities."

The current Boddington's Manchester Festival is a fair illustration of the civic ambitions involved. Its programme has an international flavour, especially in an enticing offering of European music. Meanwhile, festival director Phil Jones signals its anti-elitist aspirations by promising the most pop music you'll see in an arts festival in this country. It caters for minority and community groups. And it proudly presents a healthy crop of Manchester talent.

Jones is confident that audiences will be forthcoming. "People are still spending money on going out. You don't see a vibe like you see in Manchester on a Saturday night in any other city in western Europe." Add to this the fact that there are eight million people within driving distance and you begin to see why businesses are so interested in sponsoring the arts.

But it is a question of common will. "Manchester is aware that an active arts community is all part of the raising of the city's status," says Jones. "It needs a council with vision to realise that." The vision may already be paying off.

Full details of events in the Boddington's Festival of Arts and Television may be obtained by telephoning 061-228 1166

## British are strong on the joy of music

### CONCERT

#### Premiere Ensemble QEH

WHETHER by accident or design, our own Premiere Ensemble, one of the most exciting groups to have emerged in Britain in recent years, occupied the QEH the evening before its better established American counterparts, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, flew in for the first of its three South Bank dates.

Whereas the conductorless Orpheus has made its reputation with high-powered readings of the classics and has only recently turned to contemporary composers to replenish the repertoire, the Premiere has, under music director Mark Wigglesworth, from the start promoted the music of 20th century British composers, not least that of its president, George Benjamin.

The Premiere does not have the hyper-glossy, machine-like precision of the Orpheus. But that is in any case a doubtful asset. What the British players do exude is a sense of pleasure at making music together.

To the opening work, Tippett's Concerto for Double String Orchestra, they brought just the right drive, the propulsive rhythms, to generate its youthful energy. I admired, too, the clarity with which Wigglesworth defined the antiphonal discussion between the two parts of the orchestra.

The ensemble also seemed to relish the taxing demands of Tippett's later Concerto for Orchestra, where all the departments are put through their paces. Here the odd ragged edge did show, more

in the upper strings than anywhere else, though the curious throw-away endings of each of the movements were nicely done.

George Benjamin's *Upon Silence*, a setting of Yeats's "Long-Legged Fly", was written originally for five violas and mezzo-soprano. In his new version, given its British premiere here, Benjamin has replaced the violas with a small modern-instrument ensemble (two violas, three cellos, two basses). The strings are directed to play without vibrato and thus the difference is minimised, though it must be a good deal easier to negotiate the opening Prastu on modern instruments.

The insect-like, whirring effect, brilliantly conceived by Benjamin, was impressively executed by the seven players. They also succeeded in catching the whimsy, the imaginatively offbeat gestures that mark the score out, like so much of this composer's work, as fresh and original.

Susan Bickley, who had earlier given a performance of Britten's dramatic cantata *Phaedra*, was equally alive to these idiosyncrasies in her sympathetic rendering of the solo vocal part.

BARRY MILLINGTON

## Shallow and flighty

### OPERA

#### Così fan tutte Theatre Royal, Glasgow

SCOTTISH OPERA'S 30th anniversary season opened on Wednesday with a re-studied revival of its two-year-old production of Mozart's opera. The name of the original producer (Jürgen Gosch) did not appear in the programme — Graham Devin was in charge. The anonymous abstract sets had been adapted, and were relit by Ben Ormerod. The results were simple to a fault: there was little sense of time and place, or of social context.

This matters: it helps a director make some sense of the action, more sense, say, than the sisters balking at a kiss in the first act finale when they had been heavily mauled half an hour earlier by a pair of hairy Albanian bandits (somewhat optimistically described as "gentlemen" by Don Alfonso). Indeed, establishing the new pairings as soon as the Albanians enter removes much of the interest from the rest of the first act, and pre-empt the turning-point in the second, which had in no sense been prepared for. This was not a *Così* that probed deep.

It was sung in Martin Fitzpatrick's and Justin Brown's new English translation. Why? There are already three perfectly good ones in existence, and this was no improvement on any of them. The current fetish for new translations for every new production — and now revivals — is threatening to get out of hand. Must singers be required to learn a new text practically every time they sing a role?

Brown conducted, fast, furiously, clearly, securing some fine woodwind playing from a properly-sized orchestra. There was plenty of dramatic thrust, but a corresponding lack of nuance, of emotional danger, which emphasised similar lacunae on stage.

The cast was youthful — a good start — but uneven: the voices of neither the sisters nor the brother officers blended gratefully. Anne Williams-King's range of colour and dynamic was on this showing too limited for Fiordiligi, and her tuning was unreliable: the same was sadly true of her Ferrando, Kevin Anderson, so memorable in ENO's *Street Scene* earlier this year, but here frankly out of his depth. The gentle-toned Guglielmo, Martin Higgins, didn't always project over the orchestra.

Elizabeth McCormack's traditionally roguish Dorabella (it is a bad tradition) phrased her lines with welcome musical imagination, and Gordon Sandison was a benign Alfonso. Best of all was the first, dead-common Despina of Sally Harrison. She has a beautifully fresh, piny soprano and sings the lines in both recitative and aria as if the words had just been written and really meant something. The performance caught fire when she was on stage.

RODNEY MILNES

## Careless talk still costs lives

The women are laughing at the coincidence that both their husbands are in psychotherapy. On the closely-shaved lawn in their Ealing garden Stephanie has spread a picnic cloth and Colin is in charge of the drinks. Tony and Maddy have been invited over for a summer lunch, and when the women go back into the house to prepare the salad, the men wearily stalk each other around the square of grass, tossing scraps of conversation towards each other: where best to go on holiday, what best to do when wine is corked.

Colin is the more aggressive, not really an easy host. Tony seems a ready victim, distressed as to whether to eat a second course. Unease and menace drift in the air, counterpointed by Howard Davidson's music, well described by Martin Hoyle as "Sable on a downer" when he reviewed the play at the Royal Exchange, Manchester. From the house come the burrs of merry laughter, so puzzling and disturbing to the men.

Michael Welford wrote the play for radio in 1989, the same year that he won the Mobil Playwriting Competition with *Amongst Barbarians*, also shown at Man-

### THEATRE

#### Women Laughing Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court

chester and then at Hampstead. Last year he died of a brain tumor and *Women Laughing* stands as a poignant reminder of how fine a talent the theatre lost by his early death.

He does not patronise his characters. The men are anxiously aware of the power of words and confess their need to be precise; such concern is comic but Wall's tone is compassionate, disclosing his own understanding of how words can drive a person mad.

John Michie's Tony is tormented by impulses to strangle his wife (Matilda Ziegler), a brainless witterer who chafes in unconsidered clichés: "I believe in giving people a fair chance, but fair's fair." When, in the second act, set in the grounds of an asylum, Tony is virtually silenced by drugs, Maddy's uncomprehending banalities are only an extreme version of the divorce of language from feeling, the mala-

dy that has wrecked them all. Tenderness breaks the surface when the desperately talkative Colin (Christopher Fulford, excellent) unexpectedly blurts out his love for Stephanie, and Maggie O'Neill, eyes stricken with concern, cradles him in her arms. Beautifully acted, the play's adroit mix of comedy and anguish is sensitively paced and spaced in Richard Wilson's direction, where the only fault is bad placing of the asylum benches.

Frank McGuinness's Beirut-set play *Somebody Who'll Watch Over Me* also transfers this week from Hampstead, where it was reviewed in these pages, to the Vaudeville, with James McDaniel taking over from Hugh Quarshie as the American hostage. Alec McCowen and Stephen Rea continue as the Englishman and the Irishman, chained to the cell they must share. Heirs to an ancient enmity, they finally break through to a mutual understanding.

Though lightweight in characterisation, the play is welcome in a West End otherwise all too short of serious drama.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Clearly not communicating: Maddy (Matilda Ziegler) and Colin (Christopher Fulford) in *Women Laughing*

### ROCK

#### A trifle, bemusing Throwing Muses Town & Country

THROWING MUSES are a marketing executive's worst-case scenario. Their bleak indie-rock rigorously eschews commercial niceties such as formal song structures. The group's star, Kristin Hersh, does not trouble to conceal her loathing of music-business machinations.

The might have languished on the university circuit forever, but for a recent shift in public taste that has found the American trio in the right place at the right time. The Muses' gaunt, intelligent music, the very antithesis of rave culture, answers the desire for a more complex listening experience. Their new album, *Red Heaven*, is their first British Top 20 hit.

The Town & Country stage twinkled with fairy lights and a couple of table lamps: the only frivolous note in a labour-intensive performance. The Muses' songs imbue household objects with coded significance, so the lamps probably had some obscure relevance. We remained unenlightened.

The evening's tone was established at the outset by "Manic Depression". This jagged instrumental flamed with the fringes of heavy metal, but in a curiously manicured way. As the group — singer/guitarist Hersh, drummer David Narzizo and bassist Bernard George — felt their way through most of *Red Heaven*, the sound got more cutting, the atmosphere more aggressive. This was tempered, though, by an intellectual sobriety that intimidated Middle Classes At Play. Much of the material, notably the spiky pop of "Counting Backwards", evoked memories of the Talking Heads' art-school rock.

Hersh had a jittery intensity that recalled the Heads' David Byrne. Her involvement with the tunes was so complete that she only surfaced to murmur an occasional thank you. Her concentration provoked an uncomfortable sensation that the audience were voyeurs at a private Angst session.

But what was Hersh singing about? It could have been anything. The words were obscured by the volume. Wednesday's show was not entertainment in that word's usual sense. Its turbulence left you drained rather than elated. Throwing Muses ought to be required viewing — at least once.

MARTIN HOYLE

CAROLINE SULLIVAN

## Scottish rococo feast, with a side order of American gothic

#### The Wasp Factory/ Home Show Pieces Glasgow Citizens

explain the packed cohesiveness of this fascinatingly macabre 65 minutes of superbly drilled physical theatre. Frank lives on a Scottish island with his father. His brother Eric has escaped from a lunatic asylum; phone calls from the fugitive end in hysterical abuse and the hint that far from giving up his habit of setting fire to dogs, Eric now eats them as well.

Frank casually reveals the three murders he himself committed as a child. A snake slipped into a handicapped friend's artificial leg, the exhortation to his five-year-old brother to play with a bomb found on the beach, and the entanglement in a giant kite of little cousin Esmerelda who is (literally) blown away: these form the background to this black baroque fantasy.

The role of Frank is shared by Raji James and Daniel Illsley, the latter unnervingly convincing as a bland budding psychopath. They somersault, wrestle and complete each other's lines, even evoke a disco where Frank dances with his dwarf friend on his shoulders (the British equivalent of Carson McCullers's rococo Deep South is evidently the Caledonian far north).

Completing the cast is Angela Bullock, who spends much of the time in an overhead gallery providing offstage voices or manipulating the puppetry of exploded siblings, and also appears as

the windswept Esmerelda — wailed, squealed, away. The production discreetly uses a host of television screens to punctuate, emphasise and illustrate, as in the climactic vision of maggots seething in a deformed baby's brain that tips poor Eric into madness.

THREE talented actors also add polish to *The Home Show Pieces* by David Greenspan, an American who has had work produced at the Royal Court Theatre Upstairs. The same director, Matthew Lloyd, presents these four short plays, each in a different room of the same house over a seven-year period.

The background is Woody Allen-type urban intelligentsia filtered through specifically gay sensibilities. The first play is a sort of homosexual *Voyeur Humaine*, with Cocteau's deserted woman replaced by a lonely playwright who gossips, laments, rings around in the hope of company, finds solace in masturbation and finally has the courage to leave a message on his lover's answering machine.

We meet him again in the third play, sitting on the lavatory imagining a triumphant first night, rehearsing his own gracious acknowledg-

WITH *Major Barbara* a reassuring classical presence in the main auditorium, the Glasgow Citizens is mounting a world premiere and a British first in its two studio spaces. Each production is designed by its director; a not unusual practice here. Each is also beautifully acted, one with a calculated melancholy lightness of touch, the other with superbly disciplined physicality — both rather less common at this address.

The *Wasp Factory* is based on the novel by the Scots writer Iain Banks. Director-designer Malcolm Sutherland has adapted the work, which may

### THE SUNDAY TIMES

#### Winners in watercolour

On Thursday almost 200 new British watercolours will go on show in London.

They are the cream of the entries in a competition co-sponsored by The Sunday Times — the £25,000 total prize money is the highest in this country for a watercolour competition. In tomorrow's Magazine we unveil the winners — including established artists as well as new talent

The Singer & Friedlander / Sunday Times watercolour winners, in The Sunday Times Magazine tomorrow



# Fruits of kitchen labours

Frances Bissell, the Times cook, on prunes and other orchard matters



A READER from Ealing, west London, posed a problem that had Frances Bissell, Greenock, the Times gardening correspondent, and me hunting through our historic gardening and cookery books: How do you make prunes from Victoria plums?

With a good crop of plums this year, it is sensible to dry some; there is a limit to the pots of jam one can store, consume or give away.

Prunes have been used in the British kitchen since the Middle Ages, when they were brought on the spice ships from southern Europe and the Middle East, but there are no recipes for making prunes out of plums at home. It is hard to imagine that our ancestors did not realise they were the dried fruit of trees similar to those which grew in their own orchards. We can only assume that, as now, there was a ready supply of imports.

The plum traditionally used for drying is not the Victoria but the Agen plum from southwest France, which was taken to California in the last century where it has flourished ever since.

Neil Heaton, writing in 1950 of prunes made at home, says that "the easy way is to dry by prolonged slow drying with occasional turning, until no moisture remains". Well, yes, but where and how? Constant, gentle heat and plenty of ventilation is required. A fan-assisted oven set at 55C may do the trick, with the plums halved and laid in a single layer on wire cake racks. The drying time will vary from oven to oven. Or you can invest in a dehydrator (details at the end of the column), which is designed for drying many varieties of vegetables and fruit. Using this plums can be dried into prunes in about 24 hours at 55C.

It is the fresh fruit that tempts me at this harvest festival time of year. Not just Victoria but Presidents, Marjorie Seedlings, greengages, mirabelles and damsons are available now, together with some of the less well-known varieties of plums.

After the revival of interest in traditional English apples, we are now promised 25 varieties from Sainsbury's and 53 from Safeway throughout the growing season. Tydemans Early and Worcester Pearmain are good in September. The Cox is still a little immature when harvested this early, I find. Of the cooking apples, Grenadier is the one to look for, which has a short, early season.

Of the more exotic imports, this is about the only time of year when figs are affordable; purple Turkish

and Greek figs sold by the piece and smaller green figs from Cyprus sold by the pound. With one exception, nectarines and peaches are past their best, but if you should come across them, treat yourself to some *peches de wigne*; their deep purple velvet skin and dark red flesh is matched by a rich flavour.

Melons and grapes can be very good at this time of year, and if perfectly ripe are best served as simply as possible, just chilled. The large, pale golden muscat grapes from southern Italy are exquisite when served after about 30-40 minutes in the freezer — a most refreshing way to end a meal.

Here are some more elaborate ways of preparing fruit: pies and puddings for lunch and dinner, cakes for tea, and an excellent preserve made from damsons.

## Damson cheese

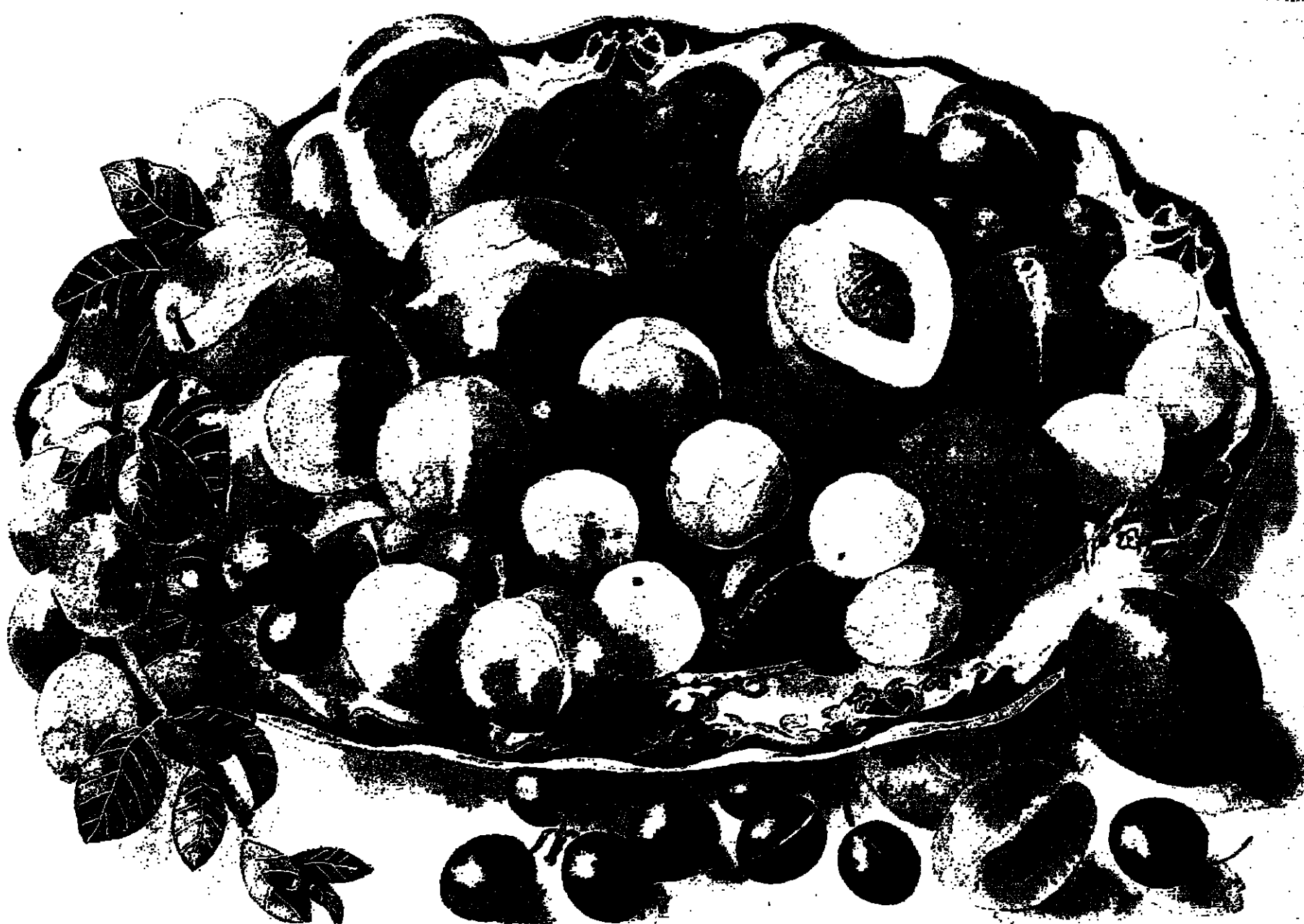
If you have a damson tree, you will probably be inclined to make much more damson cheese than if you have to buy the fruit, so I have not given overall quantities. Use 1lb of sugar for 1lb of fruit purée. You will need damsons, water and sugar.

Wash the damsons and place in a saucepan with about an inch of water in it to prevent the fruit sticking before the juices have been released. Cook the fruit until soft. Rub through a sieve, weigh the pulp and make a note of it. Weigh out an equal quantity of sugar. Crack some kernels and add these to the pulp for flavour. Put the pulp in a saucepan and cook to reduce it by a quarter to a third to remove some of the water content. Meanwhile, warm the sugar and add it to the fruit pulp. Stir over a low heat until the sugar has dissolved and then cook until the mixture thickens enough to part when a spoon is drawn through it. Pack into straight-sided pots, loaf tins or flat, round sponge tins, and leave overnight to set. The pots can then be covered and sealed. The cheese set in a loaf tin or sponge tin can be turned out and closely wrapped in wax paper and foil for storage.

## Plum cake

7oz/200g unsalted butter  
7oz/200g caster sugar  
4 free-range eggs, separated  
1 tsp pure vanilla essence  
7oz/200g plain flour  
7oz/200g potato flour  
1 tsp baking powder  
130g/370ml milk  
1lb/455g plums, halved and stoned  
2-3 tsp granulated sugar  
1 tsp ground cinnamon

Cream the butter and sugar and gradually add the egg yolks and then the vanilla essence. Then add,



alternately, milk and flours, adding baking powder with the last batch of milk. Whisk the egg whites and, when stiff, fold them into the cake dough. Spoon it into a clean, greased roasting pan or baking tray. Smooth the top and place the plum halves on it, skin side up. Bake for 40 minutes or so in a pre-heated oven to 170C/325F, gas mark 3. Remove from oven and, while warm, sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon mixture. Cut cold.

IN THE next two recipes, apples and pears are interchangeable:

## Pear and almond tarts with butterscotch sauce

(serves 4)

Pastry  
1/2 lb/110g plain flour  
2oz/60g ground almonds  
3oz/85g unsalted butter, diced  
2oz/60g caster or icing sugar  
1 free-range egg yolk  
1 tsp vanilla essence  
1/4 tsp finely grated orange zest

Sift the flour and almonds and work in the butter. Mix the sugar, egg yolk, essence and zest and stir into the flour mixture. Add a little iced water if necessary to bind it. Knead it lightly together into a ball, wrap in cling film and rest the pastry in the fridge for two hours.

Meanwhile, prepare the almond paste, the filling and the sauce.

Peel, core and dice the pears. Sprinkle with orange juice and put to one side.

Almond paste  
3oz/85g unsalted butter at room temperature  
6oz/170g caster sugar  
1/2 lb/110g blanched chopped almonds  
1/2 vanilla pod, split

Cream butter and sugar, stir in almonds, and add seeds from vanilla pod. Work into a ball and divide into four. Roll pieces into balls.

Butterscotch sauce  
(this makes more than is required for the pear tarts. It keeps well in a jar in the fridge.)  
3oz/85g unsalted butter  
2oz/60g granulated sugar  
1/2 lb/110g light muscovado sugar  
1lb/455g golden syrup  
1/4 pt/140ml double cream

Gently heat the butter, sugar and syrup in a heavy saucepan until melted. Cook over a low heat for ten minutes or so, stirring occasionally to stop mixture sticking. Remove from the heat, and beat in cream.

To assemble the tarts: Roll out the pastry and line four individual tart tins, about 4-5in/10-12.5cm in diameter. Fill with the diced pears. Press out circles of almond paste and cover the tarts. Bake in a pre-heated oven at 200C/400F, gas mark 6 for about 25 minutes, until the tops are golden brown. To serve, pour some of the sauce on to individual plates, put the tart on top, and dust with icing sugar.

Apple and mint pudding (serves 4)  
1lb/455g apples  
sugar to taste

3-oz/85-110g butter, softened  
sliced white bread  
1/4 pt/140ml double cream  
1/4 pt/140ml sweet sherry  
1 free-range egg yolk  
2 sprigs fresh mint  
60g apricot jam  
1oz/30g flaked almonds, lightly toasted

Peel, core and roughly chop the apples, and cook for 2-3 minutes, with just enough sugar to sweeten them. Butter slices of bread and cut each slice into four slightly wedge-shaped fingers. Cut a round of bread to fit the bottom of an oven-proof pudding basin, which should be first buttered and sprinkled with caster sugar. Line the bowl with the fingers of bread, butter side out.

Mix half the cream and sherry with the egg yolk and stir into the apple. Set aside the best mint leaves for garnish, and then chop the rest and add to the apple. Spoon into the bowl, and cover with a bread lid and press down. Place in a pre-heated oven for ten minutes at 200C/400F, gas mark 6. Remove and allow to rest while you make the sauce.

Heat the jam in a saucepan, add the sherry, a little water if necessary, and the rest of the cream. Turn the pudding out on to a plate, strain the sauce over it, or hand separately and garnish with toasted almonds and mint.

● The Harvest Maid Dehydrator is available at £108, including VAT and delivery, from the International Supply Co, PO Box 189, Granary House, the Grange, St Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands (0481 64866).

## MAIL ORDER FROM IRELAND

● Irish oysters are no more than a phone call away and can be delivered within 24 hours. They are farmed Pacific oysters, as distinct from the flat, round native oysters, and the season has just opened. Pacific oysters are available year-round, but at their best from now until the spring. Prices vary according to the quantity ordered. In addition to live oysters, Cuan Sea Fisheries has oyster products: oyster mornay and angels on horseback are available from Waitrose stores at £1.99 and £2.99 respectively.

Cuan Sea Fisheries, Skerrick Island, Killinick, Co. Down (Dr Jasper Parsons, 0239 541461). Shore-to-door overnight service; guaranteed 24-hour delivery and orders of any size taken.

Redbank Shellfish, 140 Tabernacle Street, London, EC2A 4SD (James Kearns, 071-379 1845). Atlantic Shellfish, Rossmore, Carrigrohilly, Co. Cork (David Hughes-Jones, 010 353 21 883248). Oysters flown overnight from Cork to Heathrow 24-hour delivery service, and orders taken before noon will be delivered the following morning.

● The wild salmon season is over until next spring. For those who cannot do without salmon, I recommend one from Northern Ireland which is farmed non-intensively, in open sea with

strong tides and low stocking levels, which means that virtually no chemicals are needed.

Glenarm Salmon Farm, Northern Salmon Company, Glenarm, N. Ireland (0574 841691). Heritage Foods of Bristol, which normally only specialises in wild salmon, distributes the fish in Britain, although not on a large scale (Steve Downey, 0275 393979 or fax 0275 394140).

Bia Mara also farms salmon some distance off the west coast of Ireland in the largest cages in Europe. I am told there are no lice, therefore no antibiotics are used. I like the texture and flavour of the Bia Mara salmon, although it does have a very dark orange colour. Sainsbury's stocks the Bia Mara sea trout.

● If you are planning a visit to Ireland, *The Bridgestone Irish Food Guide* is an indispensable companion. Every possible food source, from restaurants, farm shops and cheesemakers to oyster fishermen, fishmongers, cafés and butchers, is not only listed but described in memorable prose. The authors, Sally and John McKenna, have also written three small guides, *100 Best Places to Stay in Ireland*, *100 Best Places to Eat in Ireland* and *100 Best Restaurants in Ireland* (Estragon Press Limited, 4 Halliday Square, Dublin).

F.B.

## A preference for the bottle

Jane MacQuitty has turned off the tap in favour of clean, healthy mineral water



Clear choice: consumption of bottled water has increased nearly ten-fold in a decade

I gave up drinking tap water more than a decade ago. Living in London and moving to an old house with lead pipes, it was the ever-changing taints in my local water board's tap water that finally persuaded me to switch to bottled waters. Fed up with chlorine-scented drinking water that gradually became a dirty, fish tank-like mouthful before being cleaned up by chlorine again, I decided that I cared as much about the contents of my water glass as I did my wine glass.

I am not alone in my predilection for a cleaner, purer, fresher-tasting glass of water: one third of all UK households now drink bottled water. Ten years ago we drank just 45 million litres annually, but this year we are likely to wash down more than 500 million litres.

Bottled water has become a necessity, not an indulgence, due partly, at least, to the foul taste of much of the country's tap water. There is also considerable worry about pollution. Water boards argue that 57 standards are applied to tap water, and only 13 to bottled waters, which makes them the "safer" water. I am not so sure. There has been only one recent serious bottle-water scare: Perrier's problems with benzene 2½ years ago. Yet tainted tap water scandals occur most years. London's water boards are proud, too, that every recycled glass of water could have been through 13 stomachs before it

gets to yours. Rather an off-putting thought, as is the realisation that fertilisers, insecticides, lead, hormones due to the contraceptive pill, and antibiotics are not being completely filtered out of tap water. Of them all, the dangers of lead and pesticides are Britain's greatest water problems.

Health is another reason for turning from tap to mineral water. Across the Channel, mineral water cures and restful spa holidays are deemed so successful that stressed continentalers can get them free from the state. That may be taking things too far, but when you consider that the human body is made up of 70 per cent water (80 per cent for newborn babies), there is some justification for believing that you are what you drink.

However, it is still the superior taste that persuades me to pay the premium for bottled water. I also rather enjoy the many different flavours of today's bottled waters, whether still or sparkling, natural or flavoured, heavily or lightly mineralised. So distinctive are the differences between the top classic mineral waters, such as Evian, Spa and Volvic, and

even the sparklers such as San Pellegrino and Perrier, that it is possible to tell which is which, blind.

It is the minerals that give mineral water taste: the higher the percentage, the more full-flavoured and distinctive it is. The most aggressively flavoured mineral waters are those that rush warm from the ground in volcanic spa resorts such as Vichy, whose visitors drink the hot, salty, sodium bicarbonate-enhanced water with surprising relish. Bottled Vichy waters, such as the fizzy St Yorre (Odbins 69p), are likely to be quite full-flavoured enough. At the other end of the mineral water taste spectrum is Evian, France's best-selling water, that filters through sand for 15 years at the foot of the Alps and as a result has a low mineral content.

Carbonation also makes a difference to the taste. Artificially carbonated water has an unpleasant, gassy soda-pop character, while those that are naturally carbonated taste softer and more palatable. Degrees of carbonation also make a dif-

ference, whether in softly sparkling mineral waters such as Badoit or Ferrarelle, or a heavily carbonated one like Perrier.

Choosing a good mineral water is confusing. Make certain that what you are buying is mineral water, not just tap water that has been filtered, bottled and given a fancy name. These waters are known as purified waters. Spring water, as the name suggests, is natural water from a spring, or drilled spring, without the specific, perhaps health-enhancing, mineral properties. Spring water, unlike mineral water, does not have to be bottled at its source. In addition, all mineral water has to be regularly analysed to ensure that its mineral composition remains the same.

Look out, too, for the newly arrived flavoured mineral waters. The classics, such as Perrier with a dash of lime, are the best of these. Many, such as the new Clearly Canadian range, have been strangely sweetened. If you can, buy your mineral water in glass, not plastic. The latter can affect the taste, especially with sparkling mineral water.

## Best Water Buys

- Strathmore (still), 2L, Odbins 55p, Safeway and Gateway 56p. Slightly peaty scent and palate, with a firm, almost lemony flavour.
- Spa Reine (still), 1.5L, Asda 45p, Odbins, Sainsbury's 52p.
- A soft, silky water from Belgium with an almost salt-free palate.
- Badoit (sparkling), 1L, Majestic Wine Warehouses 89p.
- The gourmet's mineral water: delicate fizz and refreshing alkaline quality. Soft, light, gently sparkling with a bicarbonated, calcium-rich style.
- Perrier and L'Oréal, 75cl, Sainsbury's 58p, Asda 63p, Gateway 64p.
- Refreshing zest of lime flavour makes it easy to drink.
- Scottish Caledonian Spring Water (lemon), 1L, Sainsbury's 54p.
- Soft, refreshing, the best of the lemon-flavoured mineral waters.

## IF OUR JAMS HAVE A GOOD NAME IT'S BECAUSE OF THE FAMILY TREE



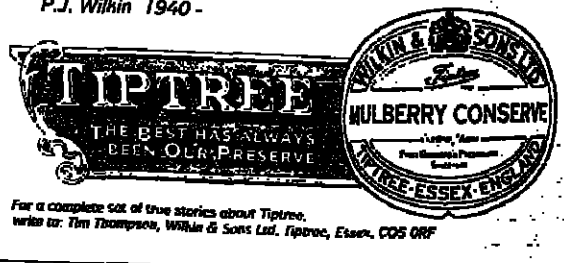
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Until recently, agriculture and fishing played a dual role in Ireland's coastal areas, complementing and supporting each other in their own seasons. Where agriculture gave poor returns, people had to search for other means to supplement their diet.

In this sense their lifestyle was very similar to that carried on by the hunters and gatherers, the very first settlers in Ireland. Although these Mesolithic people did not practise agriculture as we understand it today, they did know about edible plants and roots, fruits, nuts and berries, and the seasonal movement of wild animals and fish.

In early spring they camped on the coast near the estuaries of the thousands of rivers and tributary streams which flowed through the island, and gathered and ate the mussels, oysters, periwinkles, cockles, limpets and seaweed from the bays. They knew how to catch the cod, mackerel and ling that swam near the shore, using long bone or wooden-handled harpoons with tiny flint blades, and they were adept at trapping nesting sea birds, such as the puffin and gannet, and gathering their eggs. In summer they caught salmon in the estuaries and then followed them on their journey to the lakes where they would spawn.

In AD1166 the writer and historian Giraldus Cambrensis wrote: "This Ireland is also especially remarkable for a great number of beautiful lakes, abounding in fish and surpassing in size those of other countries I have visited. The rivers and lakes also are plentifully stored with the sorts of fish peculiar to these waters and especially three species — salmon, trout and muddy eels, and oily shad."

We also know from Giraldus Cambrensis that "the Shannon abounds in lamprey", and from later documented accounts that mullet, roach, mudd, tench and bream were to be had, along with an abundant supply of freshwater crayfish from the limestone loughs of Lene, Sheelin and Derravaragh and others in the centre of the country. We know, too, from the archaeological remains of kitchen midden sites by the estuaries, rivers and lakes, that char, pollan, pike, perch and carp were present.

The Brehon Laws, which come to us from pre-Christian times, and which were in operation in all parts of Ireland outside the English Pale until the time of Henry VIII, emphasised the importance of fish, giving a recognised status to fishermen in early Irish society. The *mur bhreatha*, or sea decisions, also showed the care taken by the Irish lawgivers to preserve the rights of each clan to fish in their own rivers.

Along the coast and on the islands there was a much wider variety of produce from the shore than the land. From the bays the local community gathered molluscs and shellfish, which were eaten in great quantities and provided them with their main source of protein. In 1788 a clergyman, describing the diet of the people in the Rosses, co. Donegal, wrote:

"Their shellfish they got in the following manner: the men went to the rocks with a hook tied to the end of a strong rod; and with that they pulled from



Clare Connery explores the fishing grounds in her series on Ireland's culinary traditions

## Living off the water



CHRISTOPHER HILL

Shoals of goodness: have your herrings potted, fried or marinated

### MIXED SEAFOOD WITH CHEESE SAUCE

Bia Na Mara le Anam Caise

Cod is one of the main fish caught off the Irish coast and is widely used in Irish kitchens. It is most frequently baked, dipped in batter and fried, poached or made into cakes, pies and other savoury dishes. In this recipe, strips of cod are combined with prawns and mushrooms and coated in a cheese sauce. Any other firm-fleshed fish and shellfish can also be used. This makes an excellent savoury dish for either a first or main course.

(serves 4 as a main course, or 6-8 as a first course)

1lb/450g cod fillets  
2oz/15g butter

2oz/50g button mushrooms, chopped and thinly sliced  
4oz/100g cooked prawns  
For the cheese sauce  
15fl oz/450ml milk  
piece of onion  
6 peppercorns  
blade of mace  
bay leaf  
1 1/2oz/40g butter  
1 1/2oz/40g plain flour  
salt and freshly milled black pepper  
1tbsp/15ml lemon juice  
4oz/100g cheddar cheese, grated

Begin the preparations for the sauce. Put the milk into a saucepan along with the onion, peppercorns, mace and bay leaf. Bring to the boil, then remove from the heat and leave to infuse for about 15 minutes. Melt the 1 1/2oz/15g butter and



when hot put in the fish, flesh side down so that it cooks first. Reduce the heat and cook until golden brown. This will take about four minutes on each side. Drain on kitchen paper before serving with lemon wedges and mustard sauce. If the herrings are small allow two per person.

### BAKED SCALLOPS

Muiriri Baeailie

Like most shellfish, scallops benefit from being lightly cooked and simply served (serves 1)

2-4 prepared scallops depending on size  
1 scallop shell  
1/2oz/15g butter  
3-4tbsp/30-60ml fine breadcrumbs  
1 clove garlic, finely chopped  
1tbsp/15ml parsley, finely chopped  
salt and freshly milled black pepper

Prepare the scallops by trimming off the muscle, a small pale coloured attachment which pulls off easily. Rinse the scallop quickly under cold running water and drain. Scrub the shells and dry. Butter them with half the butter. Mix the breadcrumbs with the garlic and parsley and sprinkle a thin layer over the shells, about half of the total quantity. If the scallops are large, slice into three diagonally or leave whole and lay in the shells on top of the crumbs. Season with salt and pepper and cover with the remaining crumbs. Cut the rest of the butter into very small pieces and set on top of the crumbs. Put the shell on a baking tray and bake at 200C/400F, gas mark 6, for five to seven minutes until the scallops are cooked and the crumbs are golden.

### FRIED HERRINGS IN OATMEAL

Scallán Fricthe i Min Choire

Frying is perhaps the most popular way of cooking fresh herrings, and also one of the quickest. There are a variety of ways both to prepare and to fry the herring, but whichever you choose, it must first be gutted and cleaned, the head, tail and fins removed and the body well washed and dried. It can then be left as it is, tossed in seasoned flour or oatmeal and fried in bacon fat, butter or oil. Alternatively, it can be split, boned and opened out before frying in the same way. It can also be brined with mustard and/or dipped in beaten egg before being coated in the flour or oatmeal. The oatmeal itself can range from fine to coarse, depending on what is available and the finished texture required.

(serves 4)

4 herrings, approx 4oz/100g each, prepared  
1 egg, beaten  
3oz/75g medium-fine oatmeal, or plain flour  
salt and freshly milled black pepper  
bacon fat, butter or oil for frying

Either leave the herrings whole or open them out. Dip each in the beaten egg, then roll it in the seasoned oatmeal or flour. I have found that both the oatmeal and flour stick to the herrings better when they are opened out.

Heat the fat in a large frying pan and

### OYSTERS WITH BACON

Oisiri le Bagan

Here fresh oysters are wrapped in rashers of bacon, threaded on to small cocktail sticks or skewers, grilled and served with lemon and wheaten bread. Other shellfish such as mussels, scallops and clams can be cooked in the same way and make an excellent first course or canapé.

(serves 1)

6-8 oysters  
3-4 thin rashers bacon

Open the oysters, remove the rind from the bacon, cut each rasher in half across its width, and flatten out. Lay an oyster on each piece of bacon and roll up neatly. Thread on to a skewer, lay on buttered aluminium foil on a grill rack and cook for four to five minutes under a pre-heated grill until the bacon is beginning to colour and the oysters are lightly cooked. Serve with lemon wedges and wheaten bread.

● Taken from *In An Irish Country Kitchen*, by Clare Connery, to be published on Sept 17 by Weidenfeld & Nicolson, price £18.99. © Clare Connery 1992.

NEXT WEEK: The baking tradition

## Have saucepans, will cook

ENTERTAINING AT HOME

RAYMOND GUBBAY

When I divorced five years ago I had to learn to cook. I imagined my daughters and myself living off frozen foods and the microwave. After a while I discovered the mumbo-jumbo I had been told during my married life about the difficulties of cooking just wasn't true. Now the microwave has been banished, and I've discovered the pleasures of entertaining.

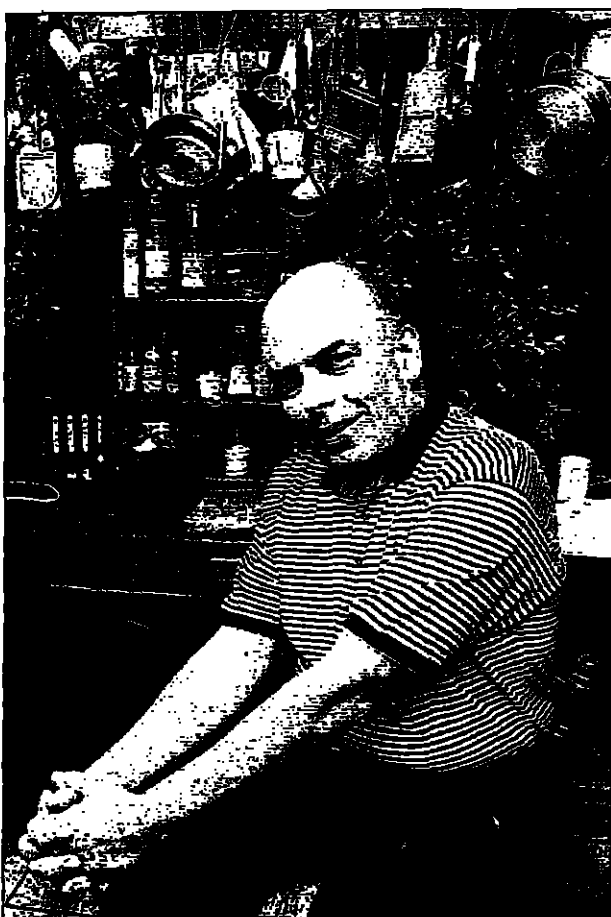
The trick is to keep things simple. I started off very methodically. First, I bought the *Readers Digest* cookery book, the big thick one. But the best thing I ever did was get a good set of pans: lovely French stainless steel ones with copper bottoms. Those, I reckon, are half the battle. With a good set of pans, you're laughing.

From simple roasts I graduated to more elaborate dishes. Then I found out about sauces and how important they are. Now I've begun growing herbs in the garden. I don't want to sound like a foodie or anything like that because I'm not, but growing herbs is fun and easy. My latest investment is a gadget to chop them all up with. Very satisfying. I'm learning all the time.

As I put on about 120 concerts a year, in addition to all the other things I do, entertaining just has to fit in. I don't take it too seriously and never panic. If I'm going to have people round, it's got to be fun.

Starters, then, are always very simple, and for dessert it's usually fresh fruit. On holiday in Sorrento recently I came across a liqueur di limone which, when sprinkled on the fruit, gives a lovely fresh sharpness to the taste. This is now my excuse for going to Italy. I love Italian food and wine — especially the young white wines from the north — and the devil-may-care attitude of the people. If I had freedom of choice, I think I'd go and live there.

I usually invite people about a week in advance. For starters I might do melon and Parma ham, or sometimes blinis with smoked salmon or red caviar, sour cream, a dusting of cayenne pepper, a slice of lemon. Blinis are easy — just like Scotch pancakes. I make them myself with buttermilk. I



don't believe in buying things when you can make them. People have got terribly lazy and buy everything off the shelf. I only realised this when I started to cook myself. Now, if I'm having pasta for instance, I like to make the sauce to go with it.

I've even invested in my own pasta machine — a hand-operated one, not electric — although I must say it's very fiddly to get right. You've got to be in a good mood and have some nice music flowing in the background. It's the lightest pasta I've ever tasted. The best. I don't give big parties because I don't enjoy them. I much prefer to have half a dozen people and just relax.

The worst thing is those heavy dinner parties where you start putting the world to rights. I vote every five years, let them get on with it. I like good company and good conversa-

tion, a bit of classical or operatic music in the background, nothing too loud.

I particularly enjoy seeing people I've known over the years — I've watched their families grow up and they've watched mine. You share common interests. That's very important. Sometimes I ask people from the music business, but always on an informal basis. My wife had this idea that you could never mix people in the business with people outside, that they were chalk and cheese. I've now found they go together rather well, provided you pick the personalities carefully.

Most of the time I adapt my recipes from something I've read in the paper or eaten in a restaurant. My favourite restaurants are L'Espresso — you never come away feeling you've eaten too much — and Boyd's in Kensington. I

started going there because, when I first knew him, Boyd Gilmour was a percussion player with a passion for cooking. Then six years ago he opened his restaurant. I've basked in his reflected glory ever since because I've known him from the days when he used to tour with us on our Strauss galas in his van, with all the instruments in the back.

I learnt from Boyd how important it is to make things look attractive. I like to glaze my carrots, for example, with butter and a little sugar. I like to make batons out of courgettes. People feel hungry when they see things served up in an appetising way and nicely garnished.

It is certainly easier giving a dinner party when you're a couple. My daughters sometimes give a hand, but often they're watching the telly. Not that I'm short of help. People wander into the kitchen all the time. Poor old Ray, they say, he's all on his own. Which is why I would never get involved in something so complicated that I'd be tempted to say: "Get out, get out", that would be too pretentious for words.

Raymond Gubbay's "rather nice" cold pasta dish (similar to a dish he once ate in Boyd's restaurant) (serves 4 as a starter)  
20oz/500g of bought fresh white pasta  
2oz/50g smoked salmon per person  
pine kernels  
parmesan cheese  
trickle of walnut oil

Cook the pasta for three minutes in boiling water with salt and a few drops of olive oil. Drain and cool. Slice salmon into small strips. When the pasta is cold, thoroughly mix a generous amount of smoked salmon into each portion. Put on plates and arrange pine kernels and shavings of fresh parmesan cheese around the edges. Sprinkle grated parmesan on top. Add a trickle of walnut oil round the edges of each plate and serve chilled.

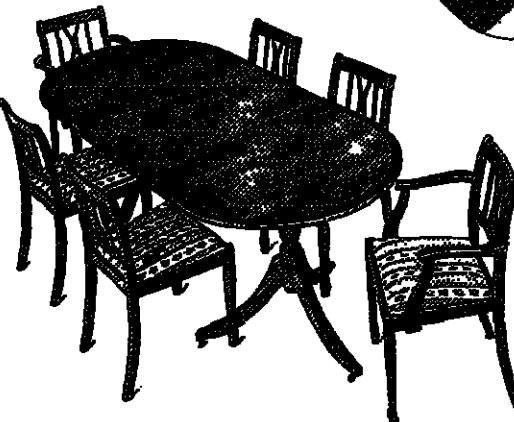
Interview by Paddy Bart

● Raymond Gubbay presented the Royal Opera House production of *Turandot* early this year and last spring celebrated his 1,000th concert promotion at the Barbican. He lives in Hadley, Herts, with his two daughters aged 18 and 22.



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## WHERE TO WALK

## Journey to the top of England

Ideally one would walk everywhere in the Lake District if one did not go by boat. With its single-track roads, restricted passing places and shortage of parking spaces, Lakeland is not car-friendly. Nor are car-users friendly to pedestrians, so avoid walking along any metalled road. There is no shortage of books suggesting routes. The Lake District National Park offers 34 easy, circular walks in 12 separate *Walks in the Countryside* leaflets (£1.99 the set). Cumbria Tourist Office includes a few Lake District routes, including the circuit of Buttermere (3½ hours), in *Short Walks Good for Families* (95p). Other lakes good to walk round are Rydal Water (three hours, including visit to Rydal Mount), Derwent Water (leaflet W7b in the National Park series, 5½ hours), and Grasmere (leaflet W11, two hours).

For me, though, no soft options this time. The walk I have chosen goes to the very top of England, Scafell Pike, and is selected because the blessed A. Wainwright, doyen of the hill-walkers, considered it "the finest fell-walk in the Lake District". The starting point is the farming hamlet of Seathwaite, the last outpost in Borrowdale and the wettest inhabited place in England, with an average rainfall of 140in a year. Take the path out of Seathwaite to Stockley Bridge. It is safe to venture that far without special footwear or walking equipment, though you are likely to need to use stepping stones for one stream crossing the rough, boulder path. To do the full walk you should be wearing climbing boots and carrying waterproofs and additional warm clothing.

After crossing the bridge, do not take the popular and much-damaged path towards Sty Head, but turn left upstream to climb through the narrow and quiet ravine of Grains Gill, flanked to the left by Glaramara and on the right by Seathwaite Fell. There are several water splashes and at the top the climb is steep and arduous, but at the head of the gill there is easier going on the well-trodden path linking Great Langdale and Wasdale.

Take a short diversion to the right to enjoy Sprinkling Tarn, a delightful sheet of water cradled beneath the cliff of Great End, but then return to the head of Grains Gill for a short cut to Esk Hause, following the Langdale path until a cairned track branches off to the right. This crosses a stony slope toward Esk Pike, rounding Great End to reach Esk Hause, a grassy saddle above Eskdale.

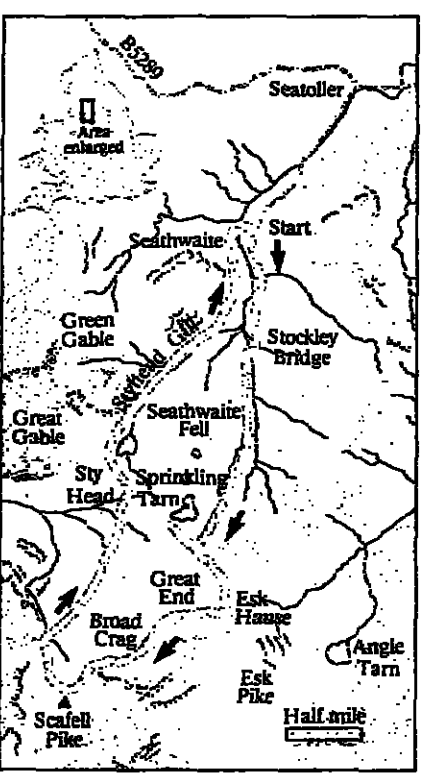
The path turns right and ascends the grassy hollow of Calf Cove. Another possible diversion here, for the strong-legged with time to spare, is to climb to the little-visited summit of Great End. From the top of Calf Cove the path to Scafell Pike turns left, marked with cairns, at first on grass and then on a wide, stony ridge. There follow 150 yards of closely packed boulders which need to be negotiated with care. Then on gravel and small stones the path bypasses Ill Crag, descends to a col and rises as a rough stairway of boulders

to skirt Broad Crag, before picking an uncomfortable passage through rough rocks up the final slopes to the summit. On a clear day the views are sensational.

For the return, start along a distinct and stony path heading west. Branch right toward Lingmell and descend to Lingmell Col, where a right turn, following the Cairns, skirts the top of Piers Gill and follows the grassy shelf of the Corridor Route, a surprisingly easy way through remarkably rough terrain. Past the top of Greta Gill the path descends steeply to the foot of Skew Gill, crosses the scree and climbs the grassy slope beyond to turn left on to the route coming down from Sprinkling Tarn to Sty Head Pass.

Take the northerly path from Sty Head to skirt the western shore of Styhead Tarn and to accompany the Styhead Gill down toward Borrowdale. The best route is not over the footbridge taking the path down to Stockley Bridge, but keeping to the west bank of the stream on a track which goes down the wooded ravine containing the 140ft waterfall, Taylorgill Force. The track hugs the base of the crags, requiring care, before emerging into marshy fields to bring you back into Seathwaite past the campsite and through an arch in the farm buildings. With luck the Seathwaite café may be open for refreshments. The total distance is ten miles and should take seven or eight hours, but start early and consult the local recorded weather forecast for fell conditions on Windermere (05394 45151) to assure yourself of settled weather and good visibility.

Seathwaite's OS grid reference is NY236122. The route can be followed on Ordnance Survey Touring Map & Guide 3, *Lake District or Landranger Sheet 90, Penrith and Keswick*.



## BEST OF BRITAIN

## LAKE DISTRICT

Lakeland is at its most glorious in autumn, when heather coats the hills and the air is crisp and clear. Robin Young reads poetry in the landscape

No use blaming William Wordsworth for the popularity of the Lake District, or bemoaning the fact that 18 million people a year tumble through this jumbled corner of England. On a world scale its lakes and mountains may be no more than a prettily arranged collection of puddles and pimples, but this is the English home of the picturesque.

The lakes were popular with tourists decades before Wordsworth saw his first dancing daffodil. By the time the poet started writing his *Guide to the Lakes*, which appeared in its first version in 1810, there were already 30 accounts of Lakeland tours in print, and volumes of views by leading landscape artists, including Gainsborough, Turner and Constable. The Lake District was, as it remains today, England's alternative to the grand tour of continental Europe.

In those days the fashion was to admire the views as artistic compositions suitable for the brushes of Claude Lorrain (for tranquillity), Poussin (for immensity) or Salvator Rosa (for horror). They were looked at from appointed vantage points, known as "stations", with the aid of a landscape mirror or "Claude glass", which would enable the tourist to see the view condensed, framed and suffused with a Claudean glow. Wordsworth himself, as a boy, delighted in the view from the "station" above the ferry house on the west bank of Windermere.

Things have not changed. Modern travellers in Lakeland still pursue each other round a circuit of viewpoints, marked nowadays with red sunbursts on the tourist maps, to squint through camera viewfinders at the picture-postcard images which are the wonders of this little world.

Now is the time to go. The summer throngs have thinned, the mountains are wrapped in a purple dingle of flowering heather, autumn mists add mystery and romance to the morning landscapes, and the clarity of cool autumn sunshine unveils views with tantalising freshness and brilliance.

The Lake District is barely 30 miles across in any direction. Whisk past its eastern flank on the M6, or aboard the London to Glasgow InterCity trains, and you would scarcely know it was there at all. Yet once you

venture inside the tangled topography of this crumpled pocket handkerchief at the top left-hand corner of England, you find that the minuscule of its scale is deceptive. Do not expect to explore it adequately in a single weekend break. It simply cannot be done. A sensible approach is to tackle it one quarter at a time.

The southeastern sector, approached from Kendal, bears the brunt of the tourist crowds. Windermere is the largest lake in England, the first to be reached from the south, and a playground for aqua sports and

Beatrix Potter first holidayed in the Lake District.

The creator of *Peter Rabbit* is almost as big a box-office attraction in Lakeland these days as Wordsworth himself. In high season up to 900 people a day push through Hill Top in Near Sawrey, the farmhouse which Beatrix bought with her *Peter Rabbit* royalties and used as her studio and study. Her fans, not all of them young, recognise with childish delight *Jemima Puddleduck's* rhubarb patch, the house porch faithfully reproduced in *The Tale of Tom Kitten*, the dresser in *The Tale of Samuel Whiskers*, the clock from *The Tailor of Gloucester*, and so on.

The original watercolours are on show in what were the offices of Beatrix's husband, the solicitor William Heelis, down in Hawkshead, the quaintest, prettiest, and sometimes most overcrowded village in Lakeland. With cars corralled outside, though, it is not impossible to imagine the overhanging houses, squares and cobbled streets as they were when Wordsworth attended the grammar school and carved his name on his desk.

In homage to Wordsworth even larger numbers than those at Hill Top squeeze through Dove Cottage in Grasmere, where the poet did all his best work living in higgler-muggier bliss with his sister, his wife, up to three children and frequent visits from friends, including Southey, Coleridge, the opium eater Thomas De Quincey who succeeded him as tenant, and Walter Scott. The last favourite with the guided tours, because he blocked his bedroom door and climbed out of the window to go to the Swan Hotel for a better breakfast than the Wordsworths provided.

Wordsworth lived on into a venerated but poetically unproductive old age at Rydal Mount, overlooking reedy Rydal Water. Up to 100 visitors a day went there while he was alive, and now there are many more. His principal achievement at Rydal, still admirable today, was landscaping the four-acre gardens.

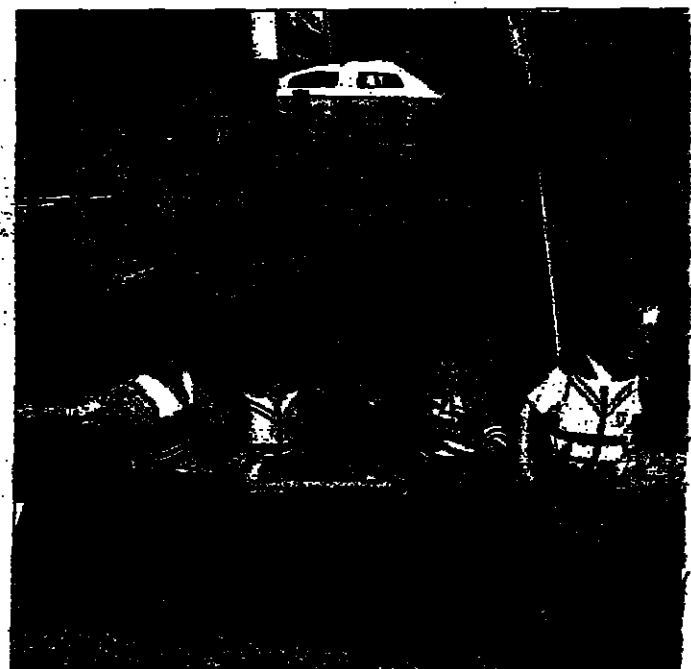
Tarn Hows, between Hawkshead and Conistone, is the most chocolate-boxily beautiful spot, but best avoided during school holidays. By welcome contrast the unspectacular but delightful valleys of Kentmere and Longsleddale north of Kendal are often



Late arrival: William Wordsworth



Perfection of English picturesque: Haweswater is typical of



Ransome revisited: latterday Swallows and Amazons go into

missed by all but walkers in the rush to Windermere. With its priory and mini-racecourse Cartmel, just west of gentle Grange-over-Sands down by Morecambe Bay, would be over Lakeland.

The Trout Beck valley, at the beginning of the hill country north of Windermere, is a must for the Holebird and Lakeland Horticultural Society gardens, and for its "statesman" farm-

houses, especially Town End, a redolent, rustic time capsule miraculously preserved and now in the safe keeping of the National Trust.

Further north, the Lake District's northernmost quarter, approached via Penrith, has a ragged question mark of serpentine Ullswater for its centrepiece, set among fells of real grandeur and bordered by some of the best walks in Lakeland. Fell walkers head on



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## HOW TO GET THERE

● **By road:** From the south, leave the M6 at junction 36 and take the A590 and then A591 round Kendal, to enter the national park near Staveley. From the north, leave the motorway at junction 40 and take the A66 towards Keswick, or turn south past Ullswater. If you are going to the west of the Lake District the A66 or A590 will avoid the most congested roads.

● **By rail:** The mainline station for the Lake District is Oxenholme, with connections to Windermere. Avis in Kendal will deliver hire cars to Oxenholme for collection (0539 733582). From Penrith, transfer to the Lakes has to be by road. Carlisle connects with the Cumbria coastal route, useful for the western lakes and the Furness peninsula.

● **Public transport:** Routes, timetables and advice for all bus and rail services to and within Cumbria from Travel Link, Cumbria County Council, Citadel Chambers, Carlisle CA3 8SG (0228 812812).

● **Further information:** Cumbria Tourist Board, Ashleigh, Holly Road, Windermere LA23 2AQ (05394 44444); Lake District National Park Authority, Brockhole, Windermere LA23 1LJ (05394 46601).

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Getting there: Expect a 3½-4 hour drive from London depending on the time of day. Call ahead from St Ann's chapel to arrange for the sea-tractor to be sent to collect you. Train travellers can alight at Plymouth and arrange to be picked up. Yachtsmen are also welcome (check tidal information), and the modern reincarnation of bright young things may choose to arrive by helicopter - Castle Air Charter (0534 543) flies to the island.

## Si

We should really have rolled up in a leisurely fashion for our weekend at Burgh Island, preferably in a vintage cabriolet with Cole Porter swirling around our ears. I cursed the choked Friday afternoon motorway, my battered Peugeot and the radio programme on the radio for bringing down the tone of our arrival as we negotiated the high-hedged Devon lanes descending to Bigbury-on-Sea.

Fortunately, the few hundred metres of sea between the mainland and the island provide a psychological break, so that by the time we disembarked on the island, the frustrations of the working week and the M5 were receding fast.

The instructions issued by the Burgh Island hotel had spoken intriguingly of a "sea tractor" which would speed us across the waves to our weekend destination. I presumed this to be a joke until the thing churned towards the bay - truly a Heath Robinson contraption with outsize tractor wheels.

Built in 1929, the hotel was known in its heyday as the "smartest hotel west of the Ritz", and under the management of Tony and Bea Porter, who rescued it from its post-war decline in 1985, it is on the way to regaining this reputation.

The Porters have recreated the hedonistic atmosphere of the art deco years in a style



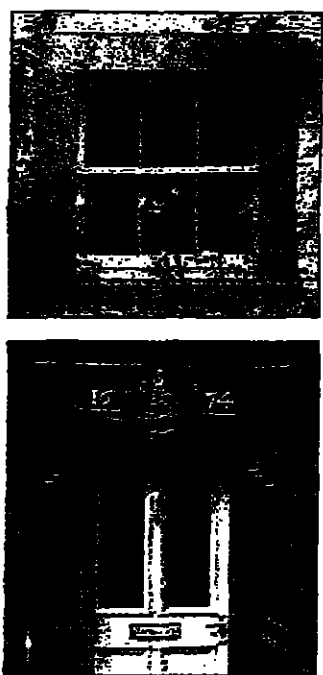
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROS DRINKWATER



lyrical Lakeland scenery that was inspiring artists and writers long before Wordsworth published the first edition of his *Guide to the Lakes* in 1810



in at Coniston



Safe as Lakeland houses



Pause for breath: a Hawkshead hostelry

Hallin Fell and Place Fell, those who prefer to stay by lakeside can walk the south shore from Howton pier to tridding and return by the or yacht service. llswater is best seen from the its *Raven* or *Lady* of the , or from the footpath, but u must go by car it looks driving from northeast to hwest, with a final glorious back the way you have e from the head of the

Kirkstone Pass, looking out over Brothers Water. Gowbarrow Park, near Aira Force waterfall on the west shore of Ullswater, is where Wordsworth saw the daffodils. They are still there every spring. Above Glenridding at the southern end of the lake is the narrow ridge of Striding Edge, a heavily trampled way up Helvellyn, which many think the finest of Lakeland's four 3,000-footers. If you think it

looks tough, bear in mind that Wordsworth climbed it when he was 70. (Skiddaw, where Wordsworth and Southey celebrated Waterloo by lighting bonfires, is much easier and only 60ft lower). The northeast's backwaters are the gentle limestone country of the unspoiled Lowther valley, where the showpiece is the ancient and outstandingly attractive village of Askham; and the lonely and largely

empty hills around the northern slopes of Skiddaw and Blencathra, where the picture-book village, hard by John Peel's Caldbeck, is Hesketh Newmarket.

The northwest quarter is approached from Cockermouth via Bassenthwaite Lake and Keswick. It has Derwent Water, the "Queen of the Lakes", for classic beauty, and Loweswater, Crummock Water and Buttermere strung along the Vale of Lorton as a complementary necklace of pearls. Packing their artists' easels, all the world attempts the narrow road to the remote moorland hamlet of Watendlath via Ashness Bridge and Surprise View.

There are more spectacular views among the romantically wooded crags of Borrowdale heading up to the stark Honister Pass, and more intimate charms in two almost secret little valleys, Newlands and St John's in the Vale.

The richest quarter of all is the southwest. West Water, beyond Wasdale Head, is the most unforgettable of all the lakes, its southeast side a precipitous scree, with around its head Kirk Fell, Lingmell and Great Gable, the mountains which form the logo of the National Park.

Great Langdale gets more exciting the closer you get to the vehicular dead end imposed by Langdale Pikes and Bow Fell. Little Langdale, branching off at Elterwater, is less spectacular, but charmingly seduces drivers

toward the hair-raising Wrynose and Hardknott Passes, where cars try to climb single track three-in-one gradients in face of others sliding down, like kids on a helter-skelter.

Once you win your way past the remains of the fort the Romans strategically placed atop Hard Knott, the reward is Eskdale, which the guru of fell-walkers, Alfred Wainwright, called "this perfect Arcadia in the hills". Eskdale, refreshing and delightful, is also serviced by "La'la Ratty", the Ravenglass and Eskdale miniature railway which helpfully steams seven miles from the west coast of Cumbria up to Dalegarth; but Upper Eskdale, unvisited by road or rail, remains largely people-free.

The narrow, winding Duddon Valley (or Dunnerdale), running south from Wrynose Bottom between the Wrynose and Hardknott Passes, inspired 35 Wordsworth sonnets. The best bit is the five miles from Birks Bridge, a beauty spot with a little packhorse bridge, down to Ulpha.

That still leaves Coniston, with the National Trust's beautifully restored Victorian steam yacht *Gondola* to ride in, John Ruskin's marvellously situated home and inspiring museum at Brantwood to visit, and all the *Swallows and Amazons* trail of Arthur Ransome's children's books to explore. No, we really can't blame Wordsworth. ● Next week: Orkney

WHERE TO STAY

Home-style hospitality

● **Underscar Manor**, Applethwaite. Italianate Victorian mansion with 11 rooms and superb parkland setting, overlooking Derwent Water and Keswick from the slopes of Skiddaw. Dinner, B&B from £75 to £125 a person (07687 75000).

● **The Old Church Hotel**, Watermilllock, Ullswater. Blissful country house on the shores of the lake, three miles south of Pooley Bridge. £45 to £75 a person B&B, £60 to £90 with dinner (07684 86204).

● **Leeming House Hotel**, Watermilllock, Ullswater. Benefiting from major investment by Forte. Forty rooms. Singles from £75 (unrefurbished) to £105 (with balcony), doubles £90 to £135. Leisure breaks £89 a person a night including breakfast and dinner (07684 86622).

● **Michaels Nook**, Grasmere. 14 rooms in a Victorian cotton magnate's mansion, antique furnishings, homely atmosphere. From £175 double including five-course dinner (05394 35496).

● **The Old Vicarage**, Witherlack, Grange-over-Sands. Outstanding hospitality in attractive walking country south of Windermere. 14 en-suite rooms. Single from £57, double from £82 (04852 381).

● **Eeswyke**, near Sawrey. The Georgian house where Beatrix Potter stayed when she first fell in love with Sawrey is now a friendly, family-run hotel with eight rooms. Single £38-£40, twin/double £56-£60 (05394 36393).

● **Pheasant Inn**, Bassenthwaite. Popular traditional inn in beautiful scenery. No television or phones in the 20 rooms. £47 single, £85 double (07687 76234).

● **Seatoller House**, Seaton, Borrowdale. Nine-room guesthouse with a house-party atmosphere, hearty dinners and breakfasts. Singles £32, double/twin £61, including dinner (07687 77218).

● **Lancrigg Vegetarian Country House Hotel**, Easedale, Grasmere. 14 double rooms, nine en-suite, in a Westmorland farmstead. From £39.50 a person a night, including dinner (05394 35317).

● **Pubs with better than average accommodation**: *Moorland Hotel*, Troutbeck (05394 33193); *Queen's Head Hotel*, Hawkshead (05394 36271); *Bridge Hotel*, Buttermere (07687 70252).

● **Accommodation on working farms**: *West Lakeland Farm Holidays*, group of nine farms, brochure from Mrs Alison Hewitson, High Stanger Farm, Cockermouth, CA13 9TS, 0900 823875; *South Lakeland Farm and Country Holidays*, group of 16 farms, brochure from Mrs Olive Simpson, High Swindlebank Farm, Longsleddale, Kendal, LA8 9BD, 0539 83682 (see please).

● **As well as self-catering holiday cottages**, the *National Trust* offers B&B accommodation: brochure (enclose s&e) from National Trust, 36 Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AS (071-222 9251).

WHERE TO EAT

● **Sharrow Bay Country House Hotel**, Howtown Road, Ullswater. Lunches (£29) and dinners (£39) of prodigious proportions yet prodigious and unfailing quality. Breakfasts (£14.50 for non-residents) are award-winning standard, and teas a delight. Demi-pension (22 rooms £180 to £280 for two, six apartments from £290 for two) is the minimum term for those wishing to stay. One of the best. No credit cards (07684 86301 or 86483).

● **Underscar Manor**, Applethwaite. Robert Thomson's skilful cookery puts this relative newcomer among Lakeland's luxury hotels straight into the top bracket. Lunch at £16.50 is something of a loss leader. The six-course "surprise menu" dinner is £25 and well worth trying (07687 75000).

● **Porthole Eating House**, 3 Ash Street, Bowness-on-Windermere. Most enthusiastic restaurant in Lakeland, Italian-French, about £35 a head (05394 42793).

● **White Moss House**, Rydal Water, Grasmere. Peter Dixon's five-course set dinners offer choice only of sweets and good English cheeses but are skilfully prepared. £25 (05394 35295).

● **The Yew Tree Country Restaurant**, Seaton, Borrowdale. At the foot of Honister Pass. Specialises in Cumbrian dishes such as Lakeland trout, Wabthwaite Cumberland sausage, Herdwick lamb cobbler and sticky toffee pudding. About £21 (07687 77634).

● **Vegetarian: Quince and Medlar**, Cockermouth. First-class, about £15 (0900 823579).

● **Pubs serving particularly good food** are the *Sun Inn*, Bassenthwaite (07687 76439); *Britannia Inn*, Elterwater (05394 37210); *Bridge Hotel*, Buttermere (07687 70252); the *Drunken Duck*, Barnegates (off B5286 outside Hawkshead, 05394 36347).



Top-of-the-range eating: try luxurious Underscar Manor's surprise menu

● **What to read: The best modern guidebooks are** *The Good Guide to the Lakes* by Hunter Davies (Forster Davies, £3.95) and *The Holiday Guide to the Lake District*, edited by Tim Locke (Consumers' Association and Hodder & Stoughton, £9.99). The illustrated Wordsworth's *Guide to the Lakes*, edited by Peter Bicknell, reprinted by Select Books, is a good buy. A. Wainwright's *Pictorial Guide to the Lakeland Fells* is a seven-volume classic.

ffing time on the island

Agatha Christie plotted murders here, Noël Coward threw parties and Anne McElvoy tangoed the night away

ch manages to seem comely natural. We scurried up our room anxious to peel off office uniform, and argued in the required dinner et and cocktail dress for ner. (Men may wear jackets ties instead, but the charm urgh Island is that everyone s their best, and I would be others not to miss out on dressing up.) the years leading up to the : this was the favoured end resort of the *Jeunesse* de Edward wood. Mrs spoon under the glass dome he palm court, and wanton, led youth splashed in the k pool or engaged in languid nis on the court. Noël Cow- l once threw parties here. later years were not kind to rgh Island. Damaged in a mbing raid, the building was y partially restored after- rds and gradually fell into a y state, limping along as a e-tering hotel. The Porters, art deco collec- s, heard that it was for sale, d down to Devon and tld it within three weeks reby, as Tony Porter says, asking every rule of financial mon sense I have ever and of in my life". They sold



their London home, their Daimler and yacht to secure the island and embarked on restoring it with their own hands. Little wonder that the result conveys such attention to detail, from pearl handles on the doors to the glass-fronted cocktail bar and maple cocktail cabinet in the Palm Court. Here the ceiling fans whirr discreetly, a crooner demoes the change in his love life from major to minor, and the white-jacketed barman approaches with trays of stiff cocktails and canapés. The hotel's best known alumnus is Agatha Christie, who wrote *Ten Little Niggers*, subsequently renamed *Then There Were None*, here, and used the island's layout with its coves, crags and sheer cliffs as the setting for *Evil Under the Sun*. Armed against intrusion with the pseudonym Mrs Mallowan, she would sit in the Palm Court watching her fellow guests for ideas as to who might murder whom given the time, the place and the prod of fate.

With or without homicide in mind, this is a splendid place for people-watching. I am not usually prone to scrutinising my fellow guests in anything more than a cursory way, but dinner jackets and cocktail dresses increase the set-appeal of even the dullest, and surrounded us all with an aura of fascination. So while the more diligent seized binoculars and headed out on to the cliff at sunset to trace the wheeling cormorants, I indulged in human-watching instead. There was a beautiful, strained-looking brunette in the corner being fussed over by her fiancé, and a vivacious blonde in turquoise silk being kissed with a mixture of furtiveness and triumph which suggested that she may well be married to someone else during the week. The lady of a certain age and uncertain embonpoint on my left wore strapless black lace kept up by sheer determination and the flexing of her considerable shoulder muscles. Dinner was delicious, if a little rich, and the wine-list excellent. In the corner behind an out-sized microphone stood a real-life crooner murmuring "I get along without you very well, of course I do..." Later there was

dancing — charlestons, tangos and dreamy smooches. The energy of the endeavour was in inverse proportion to the age of the participants, and we could only applaud a little shamefacedly the footwork of an American couple in their seventies. By the end of the night, not a single table had resisted the dance. I do not think I have ever seen British hotel guests enjoy themselves so openly. The next day we lunched on salads and beer at the 14th-century Pilchard Inn, and investigated the nooks and crannies of the island.

It seems to me an important test of a British weekend away that it should not frustrate too much if the skies open. In fact I was quite pleased when it did rain — a good excuse to curl up with a book of Devon ghost stories and a cream tea in the reading room.

The Porters have created the kind of hotel you dream of owning yourself. The plentiful staff are courteous but never intrusive, and provide all the little extras the luxury-starved heart could desire.

On Sunday afternoon we heaved ourselves regrettably out of our basket chairs and summoned the sea-tractor. "Back to civilisation today then?" asked a fellow guest. On the contrary. It was all just too, too spiffing.

For long-distance weekends, see *Saturday Review*

HIGH-STYLE WEEKENDS

THE RITZ

*Piccadilly, London W1V 9DG (071-493 8181)* The Ritz runs a break called *Celebrity Weekend* which offers a weekend of winning, dining and dancing plus the chance to take in a West End show of your choice. Champagne, flowers and handmade chocolates are provided on arrival. On Friday night you dine in the Ritz Restaurant at a dinner and dance. On Saturday, after breakfast in your suite and a relaxing free morning, you can sip afternoon tea in the hotel before being delivered by limousine to the West End show you have chosen. The finale to the evening is a champagne dinner and dance to the Big Band sounds of the 1920s, 30s or 40s. After breakfast on Sunday you are presented with two Ritz bathrobes as a reminder of your stay. Price £575 per person for two nights (Friday and Saturday) in a suite.

CLIVEDEN

*Taplow, Buckinghamshire SL6 0JF (0628 668561)* Cliveden was originally the home of the Astor family, and is now Britain's only five-star stately-home hotel. It still feels like a private house, with footmen, butlers and maids to wait on you. Residents only — and there are just 31 rooms — can enjoy its Michelin-starred restaurant, National Trust works of art, 376 acres of private gardens and parklands. Two nights' accommodation including dinner, bed and breakfast, and an optional massage or facial, costs £620 a couple.

ONE DEVONSHIRE GARDENS

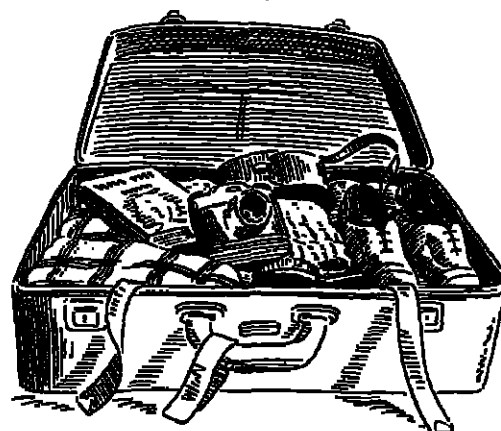
*Glasgow G12 0UX (041-339 2001)* A Victorian terrace in Glasgow may sound an unlikely venue, but One Devonshire Gardens is a one-off among hotels. Its striking interior combines original features with sumptuous designer chic — from stained glass windows to four-poster beds and sybaritic bathrooms. Flowers, fruit and champagne await guests arriving for The Perfect Weekend. This package costs £275 per couple for two nights' accommodation, continental breakfast, dinner in the acclaimed restaurant on Friday evening and a traditional afternoon tea.

SOPHIE CHAMIER

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**Bower power:** the beautiful grounds at Parc du Canon, southeast of Caen, include a series of walled gardens known as les Chartreuses, a maze and a small temple

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# Betrayed by a faithless beast who once licked my boots

THIS week I have been wandering the farm humming the old Beatles song, "Can't Buy Me Love". It has been proved cruelly true.

Things have finally come to a head after two long years of struggling with cattle. Either, I said, I am going to have to find a cow with whom I can develop a relationship, or give up the whole idea of keeping cattle on this farm. With the cars, horses, pigs and sheep I sense clearly that not only am I happy to keep them, they are content to be farmed by me. So why do the cattle always hate me so?

You will be only too well aware of my patchy career as a stockman, and may recall past moments of horror. These have ranged from the message left on my telephone saying, "Your cows have been in our swimming pool", to the great escape of the calf Ronnie Biggs, and the demise of one particular cow so unstable that my neighbour,

## FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

on first seeing her, took one look at her rolling eyes and asked whether she also breathed fire. And he is a cowman by profession.

My cattle career had reached its crossroads. I had to do something. Then, strangely, I was given a sign. My wife had been talking to a cattle breeder who had sung the praises of one particular breed, and at the very same time as she was telling me this my eye fell on an advertisement for the same breed. It boasted: "Easy calving, docile, good natured."

I decided that the British White, reputed to be the oldest breed of cattle in Britain, was the breed for me. It also has the advantage of being as white as a sheet, with the exception of the ears, nose and teats, which



are velvety black. I have always had red cows, but as I am colour-blind I have suffered many heart-stopping moments when glancing across the meadow and finding the cows have disappeared. They turn out to be standing against a green hedge. So the lighthouse effect of a white cow seemed promising.

This time, I approached my cattle-buying in a hardly commercial frame of mind. I was not interested in carcass weights, feed conversion ratios, pedigree or championship. I wanted a cow that liked me, and I was prepared to pay for it. If it took money to buy me love, so be it.

I viewed a magnificent herd of British White cattle not far away.



Drifting through them like a balloonist crossing the snowy Alps, I gazed at the glacial might of the bull, Alfred, and made overtures to every cow in turn. "This one is in calf to the champion..." the

sellers would boast, but I was not interested. "Is it friendly?" I asked. If they were not sure we passed on. Cow after cow failed the affection test, until one, a looming iceberg of an animal called Sage, detached

herself from the herd and ambled in our direction. A cow that heads towards me voluntarily is the sort of cow for me. I asked for more details. She was an experienced mother, having given four good calves; yes, she was very friendly, and no, she was not for sale as she was due to calve in October.

I looked her in the eyes, even reached out to stroke the sooty blackness of her nose. Sage did not flinch, but bowed her head respectfully and licked my boots. I put my arms around her neck as a final test, and declared her to be the cow for me. I paid a good price to compensate for disrupting the farmer's breeding routine. Money, I thought, had bought me love.

She arrived last week and soon settled with the small herd; only the sheep took some time to adjust, having never seen a white cow before. As she walked towards the flock, they stood transfixed by her

radiance, as if a Messiah had come among them. Visitors to the farm, stroked her and had their boots licked, and I thought my cow-keeping troubles were over.

But last night, with a strong wind blowing, I strolled up to see her. She saw me approach but did not make towards me as she had on our first date. I inched closer and she looked round, plotting an escape route as cows do when cornered. I cooed her name, and she swished her tail. I called to her softly, and her eyes merely widened. Then she fled. "You faithless cow," I cried like a sugar-daddy betrayed. "You two-timer! Do you know how much I paid for you?"

My heart was broken; we were back to the bad old days of shouting at cows. Money can't buy you love. But was it the wind that spooked her, or was she deceiving me all along? I shall go again tomorrow and report.

Simon Barnes packs his cleft sticks and prepares for two months' reporting from the teeming magnificence of the Zambian bush

## Call of the wild lures bird man

The fish eagle will be my alarm clock. The leopard will provide my nightlight. The dust of the Luangwa valley will be the floor of my office and my bedroom; the Luangwa river will be my television, and, unless I am very careful, the hyena will steal my soap, running away laughing and foaming at the mouth.

In short, I am preparing for a sabbatical; a risky, not to say crazy idea for a self-employed person, but when you suffer from bush fever, you have little choice in these matters.

From now until November, when, God willing, the rains will come, I shall be in the Luangwa valley in Zambia, which is one of the finest places on earth. I shall be deep in the bush, where the only luxury is a gas-powered fridge to keep the Mosi cold — this being Mosi Oa Tunya beer, words which mean the smoke that thunders, and refer to the Victoria Falls rather than anything the beer does.

I shall be with Bob Stjernstedt of Savannah Trails, a naturalist, game guide and old friend, and I shall send Feather Reports back to *The Times* every week if I run out of cleft sticks. I shall have some new ones specially cleft.

My preparations are almost complete. I have gathered together everything the bush-fevered soul could require.

Books: possibly the most important item, because walking in the Luangwa bush is the one of life's great experiences. (You need the company of a cool dude with a rifle, of

course.) In a noisy, smelly vehicle you are a neutral presence, the animals mostly ignore you. But on foot, they relate to you, as a fellow mammal; as a potential threat. In a vehicle, you are involved; on foot, you are committed. The difference between these states was explained by Martina Navratilova, talking about how committed she was to tennis: "Take ham and eggs: the chicken is involved, the pig is committed."

But so many situations in life depend on getting the hat right. My bush hat is wide-brimmed and has been suitably distressed (it would never do to wear a new one). It shows signs of vigorous use as a tsetse fly swat, and it bears a feather discarded by a lilac-breasted roller, not only one of the world's most beautiful birds, but one of the very few to perform the loop-the-loop.

Clothes: nothing white; white is a danger signal. Many beasts have conspicuous white rumps: a flash of white means, "I am running away, you do the same."

Swiss army penknife: the prime use for this is, of course, cleaving sticks, but it has a crucial secondary use: opening bottles of Mosi Oa Tunya. I have sat with a sun-drenched beer with my paws dangling over the banks of the Luangwa, watching a lioness dangle her paws over the banks, a remarkably short distance away. Such moments add a certain zing to the beer.

Books: these will include *Roberts' Birds of Southern Africa*, one of the world's great field guides. It describes 887 birds, including the monstrous bateleur eagle, arguably the bird of Luangwa. It's name means tightrope walker: the bateleur balances on the thermals, wings flung wide.

I will also take a guide book to paws and droppings: crucial concepts in the bush. A good man in the bush can read a patch of dust as if it were yesterday's newspaper: elephant passed here yesterday,



Bush man: Simon Barnes checks his equipment. His guide books include one on how to deal with dangerous animals: "climb a tree", it advises

hippo came by last night, lion went through within the hour. This book also has a section on how to deal with attacks by different animals. "Try to climb a tree... crocodiles are notorious for killing humans... your only hope is to stab it in the eyes with a knife, or even your fingers."

Torch: essential, but not for nocturnal ramblings in the bush; these are inadvisable. Camera: none. I shall take

only my binoculars: 500 quid's-worth of optical perfection. The best film is within your own skull. I will certainly see plenty of dramatic sights, but there is more to it than photo opportunities. The bush is the most colossal, teeming place in the world: the world's largest land animals swarm here, the most ferocious carnivores, the fleetest runners, the most extraordinary birds.

But it is not the sights of

great drama that take me back to the bush, it is the prospect of day-to-day familiarity with the place. The first time in the bush, you get overcome with all the trip-of-a-lifetime stuff: I must see lion, a leopard, an elephant. But after that comes a kind of freedom: it is enough to know that such marvellous creatures are about.

Every environment — a suburban garden, the patch of British Rail scrub outside my

back gate — resounds with all the great questions of life: birth and copulation and death. The questions themselves are not subtle, but the answers are of a subtlety that is so staggering that a lifetime is scarcely enough to scratch the surface. I have two months to study some of the answers put forwards by the beasts and the birds of the Luangwa valley, I am packed and ready for the experience of a lifetime.

## Lives in the balance

When we talk about conservation we are not always, or even often, talking about the conservation of primeval wilderness. There is not much of that stuff about: this country has been shaped by the hand of man for thousands of years.

We no longer live in a land covered in virgin forest. British beavers, wolves and wild boars have become extinct. The countryside has been fashioned to suit the needs and the greed of man. The main use of land is, obviously, agriculture: 76 per cent of our countryside is farmland.

As people change the nature of the land, so the nature of the animals and birds changes. There is now a population of birds and animals that depends for its existence on the way the land is managed by man: a population that depends on farmers for its living. There are as many as 130 species of bird that rely on farmland: of these, we need to be worried about an alarming total of 40 species.

Since the last world war, agriculture, fuelled by subsidies, has grown more intensive: every year, pesticides, herbicides and fertilisers have been the preferred methods of operation, and over-production has become a way of life. The very success of the farming industry has brought us close to disaster.

So far, so gloomy and doom. Now for what is potentially very good news. Last May the European Community agreed to reform the Common Agricultural Policy. Conservation must now be at the heart of farming policy and practice. So hearty hurrahs here. The theory is splendid. Now for the practicalities. By June 1993 this country must

### Feather report



Hunter in danger: barn owl

submit its plans for what could and should be the reshaping of the British countryside.

"The countryside stands poised between recovery and ruin," said Barbara Young, chief executive of the RSPB, at this week's launch of the society's "Campaign for the Countryside".

She added: "Recent policy changes have raised our expectations, but the government now has a fixed deadline for action and must lay the foundations for lasting reform. If it does not show its commitment, then the pressure from modern agriculture, neglect and creeping urbanisation will destroy all that is best in our countryside."

Wildlife cannot be ghettoised into a nature reserve. Reserves have their place, but wild creatures are part of the fabric of the land. A healthy countryside is the only hope

for many species of animal among these, homo sapiens.

Another species in this category is the barn owl. There are many good-hearted, half-cock re-release schemes for barn owls: the real problem is that much of the rough grazing land over which they used to hunt has been turned to producing wheat, of which the EC already has a surplus.

Other common birds affected include the lapwing, circling, grey lag, goose, teal and shoveler, curlew, chough, nightjar, golden eagle.

The need, then, is to return to a more environment-friendly emphasis. Goodbye agribiz, hello again farming. The RSPB is campaigning for the replacement of lost meadows and heathlands, the protection of existing sites of wildlife importance, and the creation of new ones. Its target is one million hectares of surplus farmland to be managed for wildlife by the year 2000.

This can be brought about by a complicated system of subsidies. The countryside does not belong to the farming industry: it belongs to everybody. We must pay for that privilege: and reap the benefits, too.

This is a great opportunity for government, for agriculture, for conservation: a chance for all three to work together. All our lives would be the better for that.

S.B.

What's about Birds — gatherings of swallows and house martins preparing for migration. Watch out for late swallows. Twitchees — orioles bunting at Shorwell, Chyod; peacock sandpiper at Barnsley, S. Yorks. Details from Birdline, 0898 700222.

## Heap of the week: The Castle, Beckington, Somerset

### Stalemate in Castle moves

IF IT were in good repair, The Castle at Beckington, Somerset, would be a candidate for any book on the perfect English country house. It stands beside a quiet lane towards the edge of a pleasant village three miles north of Frome, partly scaffolded and covered by temporary roofing.

Hope rises at the sight of a painted hoarding announcing that Mendip district council is "working with SEA Property to repair The Castle under its buildings at risk programme", but sinks as it becomes clear that the sign is at least two years old and nothing has happened.

Looking past the formerly beautiful entrance front, the surprise is to see a neat, flower-edged drive leading across the garden behind to a series of smart office cabins.

When Systems and Engineering Assessment, a firm of consultants, acquired The Castle, it had permission to erect 4,000 square feet of temporary offices for use while it repaired the Grade II\* listed building.

Mendip council had served an emergency repairs notice on the previous owners, erecting scaffolding and inserting acropops to prevent ceilings being brought down by rain cascading through the centre of the house. Dry rot has been checked and the building is in a stable, if rather vulnerable, state.

The temporary office per-

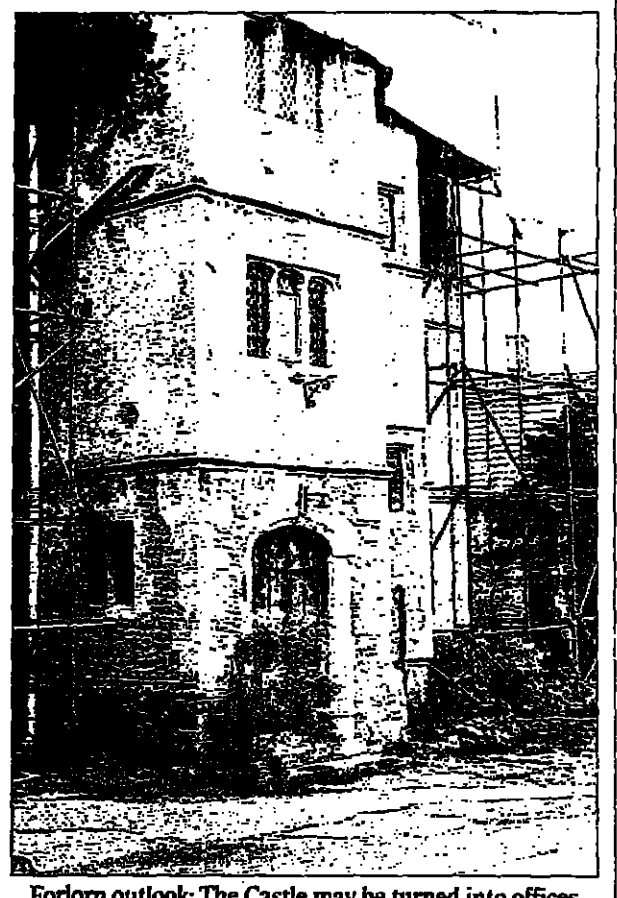
mit expires early next year and SEA has submitted an application for enabling development to finance restoration, coupled with change of use of The Castle to offices.

Ian Dale-Staples, the managing director of SEA, says: "A meticulous restoration of The Castle to English Heritage's specifications would cost £850,000 and, even with an EH grant of £200,000, would require enabling development of 20-25,000sq ft of offices in the one-and-a-half acres of castle grounds. A more economical job, involving less restoration inside, would cost half that figure and require only 10-12,000sq ft of new offices, about three times our present temporary accommodation."

There is considerable objection in the village to these plans, and the council has received a number of enquiries from people who would like to restore The Castle as a house, in architectural terms likely to be the most sympathetic solution.

The council has also learnt, through bitter experience at nearby Orchardleigh House, that jacking up the price through granting enabling permissions can take the property out of the realm of those who might be able to save it.

Remarkably little is known about the history of The Castle. With its small mulioned windows it looks, at a glance, 16th-century, but is considered to be early 17th



Forlorn outlook: The Castle may be turned into offices

century: a date of 1680 is also mentioned. This is stone building country, where tradition often weighed more strongly than new fashions. Why it is called a castle is unclear, though the four-square plan has echoes of a keep and the staircase beside the porch is in the form of a turret.

Extensively altered in the 18th century, The Castle was restored in the "old English" style of the 1890s. After the second world war it housed

the Ravenscroft boys' prep school until 1970, and internally bears the inevitable marks of institutional use. Subsequently, it was bought and sold by a series of developers with an assortment of schemes that came to nothing.

SEA, the freeholder, says: "It could be for sale."

MARCUS BINNEY

Further information from SEA (0373 831800) or from Mendip council (0749 343399).

## Events

□ Banbury horse trials: Novice, intermediate and open intermediate, plus access to state home.

Upton House, Banbury, Oxfordshire (0295 59465). Tues, 9am, £5 per car.

□ Decade trials: Pre-novice, novice and open intermediate trials.

Finzean Estate, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, (03398 53332). Today, 10am, £3 per car.

□ Durham leaf show: Prize leafs, vegetables and flower show. Auction of exhibits.

Beamish Open Air Museum, Durham (0207 231811). Today and tomorrow, 10am.

□ Gomersal craft day: Demonstrations of woodcarving, quilting, chair caning, lacemaking and saddlery.

Red House, Gomersal, Yorks (0274 872165). Tomorrow, noon-4pm. Free.

□ Harrogate flower show: Includes the Great Autumn Rose Show. Specialist cacti, carnations, luchsias, gladioli, geraniums, and honey.

Exhibition Halls, Ripon Road, Harrogate, N. Yorks (0423 568051). Next Fri-Sat, 10am-4pm, £5.

□ Nantwich chrysanthemum show: Early blooms and competition.

Stapley Water Gardens, London Road, Nantwich, Cheshire (0270 626628). Today, 10am. Free.

□ Perthshire polo: International charity match — Scotland v Kenya — plus a fashion show and demonstration of riding for the disabled.

Scone Palace, Perthshire. Today, 10.30am, £35.

□ Rotherham flower festival: Floral Art Society event on the theme "Saints and sacraments".

St Mary's Church, High Street, Rotherham, Yorks (0709 527160). Today-Mon, 10am-5pm, free.

□ Stafford country fair: Livestock, terriers, ferrets, day pigeon shooting, falconry and trout fishing.

Oakedge Country Park, Stafford (0543 420368). Tomorrow, 9.30am, £3.

□ Stamford horse trials: Burghley Remy Martin international event. Other attractions include the Everest showjumping championships, Pony Club and dog displays.

Deophly House, Stamford, Lincs (0730 52451). Today, £20 per car; tomorrow, £10 per car.

□ Suffolk croquet: Final of the East Anglia tournament.

Jobsworth Park, Havering, near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk (0284 850377). Tomorrow, 10am-4pm, £1.50.

□ Tamworth horse trials: Pre-novice, novice, intermediate and open intermediate trials.

Sadbarrow Estate, Thorne, near Chard, Somerset (0460 63238). Today and tomorrow, 10am, £5 per car.

□ West Midlands garden show: International Garden and Leisure Exhibition, with displays and sales.

National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (021-780 4133). Tomorrow-Tues, 9am-6pm, free.

## Gardens to visit

□ Dorset: Sticky Wicket, at Buckland Newton, sports fragrant cottage plants. It also has unusual and variegated plants, colour-themed planting, pond and marsh planting, and flowerheads for dried arrangements.

Buckland Newton, 11m from Dorchester and Sherborne, 2m E of A352, or take B3143 from Sturminster Newton.

Today and tomorrow, 2-6pm. Also open Thursdays, 10.30am-6pm. £1, child 50p.

□ Galloway: Logan Botanic Garden is a fine, exotic place with tree ferns and palms and unusual plants from the southern hemisphere in the walled gardens. There are also flowering trees and shrubs.

Port Logan, on B7065, 14m S of Stranraer. Open daily to Oct 31, 10am-6pm. £1.50, child 50p.











## BBC1

- 6.35 Open University: Chemistry: Too Much of a Good Thing (5001102) 7.00 Pure Maths: Space-Time Geometry (5684270)  
 7.25 News and weather (3824760)  
 7.30 Hello Spencer. Puppet fun (r) (5438096) 7.50 Babar. Cartoon antics of the regal elephant (r) (5432812) 8.15 The New Lassie. Canine adventures. (Ceeftax) (6240980) 8.35 The Jetsons. Animated fun with the space-age family (r) (8000096)  
 9.00 Parallel 9. Roddy Maude-Roxby, Helen Atkins, Jenny Bolt, Dominic McHale and Kevin Williams are joined by Boy George, Definition and Urban Strawberry Lunch (s) (70918218)  
 10.55 Film: Silver Lode (1954). Modest western with echoes of High Noon in which a vengeful marshal (Dan Duryea) comes to arrest a rancher (John Payne) for murder. Directed by Allan Dwan (2829396)  
 12.10 Daffy Duck Double Bill. Cartoon fun (5013522) 12.27 Weather (7292947)  
 12.30 Grandstand introduced by Steve Rider. The line-up includes (subject to alteration): 12.35 Football Focus: Bob Wilson and Gary Lineker look back on the week's action; 1.00 News; 1.15 Paralympics: A look at the outstanding performances from the games for the physically disabled in Barcelona; 1.55, 2.25 and 2.55 Racing from Goodwood; 2.05 and 2.35 Water Skiing: Hazel Irvine and Alan Goggin commentate on the World Barefoot Championships from Thurrock; 3.05 Golf: Round three of the GA European Open from Sunningdale; 4.00 Final Score (5485367)  
 5.05 News and weather (3808763) 5.15 Regional News (2264980). Wales (to 5.50) Wales on Saturday  
 5.20 Big Break. Jim Davidson hosts a new series of the snooker and general knowledge game show. This week he is joined by Stephen Hendry, Peter Ebdon and Darren Morgan. John Virgo is the referee. (Ceeftax) (s) (3545560)  
 5.50 Bobby Devo's Public Enemy Number 1. More unsuspecting members of the public fall for practical jokes. With Jim Bowen, Anthea Turner, Lesley Joseph and Leslie Crowther. (Ceeftax) (s) (5782399)  
 6.30 Film: Star Trek V: The Final Frontier (1989). William Shatner made his directing debut with this rather heavy-going addition to the Star Trek saga in which a Vulcan mystic causes trouble for the captain and crew of the starship Enterprise. (Ceeftax) (s) (56515396)



Emergency call: the staff are back at Holby hospital (8.10pm)

- 8.10 Casualty  
 ● CHOICE: The hectic medical drama is back for a seventh season with changes to the team and the hint of a return to the political dimension which used to annoy some Conservative MPs. Holby hospital has become a truck, run by a general manager (Joanna Foster) determined to push for savings from an already hard-pressed staff. The potential conflicts arising from this are only lightly explored in tonight's episode but they look like gathering momentum. At least they will give variety to what was becoming a stereotyped format and help to take our minds off the blood and anguish. The newcomers include a casualty officer (Jason Riddington) and a health care assistant (Emma Bird) but the show has still to fill the gap left by the departure of Brenda Fricker's kindly Megan and that eccentric Polish porter. (Ceeftax) (s) (393541)  
 9.00 Last Night of the Proms introduced by Richard Baker from the Albert Hall in London. Featuring Dame Kiri Te Kanawa singing a trio of operatic arias and the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus under Andrew Davis with the BBC Singers (s) (38251299)  
 10.40 News with Martin Lewis. (Ceeftax) Sport and weather (292299)  
 11.00 Match of the Day Special. Desmond Lynam introduces action from the Premier League and from world championship boxing. Football: highlights of two of today's matches. Boxing: the WBC featherweight championship from Toulouse in France, with Paul Hodgkinson of Liverpool defending his title against Fabrice Benichou. Harry Carpenter is the commentator (s) (259251)  
 12.50am Weather (3962315)

## BBC2

- 6.40 Open University: Maths: The Location Problem (6091725) 7.05 Equivalence Relations (3681183) 7.20 Geology: Britain's Big Man (7316812) 7.55 The Antis: A Family Legacy (5439720) 8.20 Food from the Rain Forest (6269015) 8.45 A Strategy for Benefits (8097522) 9.10 Social Problems and Social Welfare (6428909) 9.35 The Primary Health Care Team (9093489) 10.00 Images: Seeing with Sound (7967522) 10.25 In the Primordial Soup (9592251) 10.50 Race, Education and Society (8295299) 11.15 Danger, Children at Play (1726947) 11.40 Growing Apart at the Margins (2537367) 12.05 Data Models and Databases (8329980) 12.30 Education: Open Skies, Grass Roots (9324980) 12.55 Culture and Belief in Europe 1450-1600 (5707152) 1.20 The Religious Quest (7804273) 1.45 Mental Handicap: No Problem's Too Big (4596290) 2.10 Biology: Mental Illness (8685309) 2.35 Changing the Mould (1399152)  
 3.00 Gardening with Wildlife. Tony Soper visits two gardens and looks at which trees and shrubs provide the best cover and natural food for wildlife (r) (3812744)  
 3.25 Film: Passage to Marseille (1943, b/w). Dull wartime flagwaver starring Humphrey Bogart and Michèle Morgan. While investigating a Free French air force squadron, a journalist discovers that their leader is an escaped convict. Directed by Michael Curtiz (6933786)  
 5.10 Film: Murder at the Gallop (1963, b/w). When an eccentric recluse is frightened to death, Agatha Christie's amateur detective Miss Marple (Margaret Rutherford) suspects foul play. Enjoyable Rutherford but poor Christie. Directed by George Pollock (6128725)  
 6.30 Late Again. Highlights from last week's editions of The Late Show (500183)  
 7.15 News and sport with Moira Stuart. Weather (462928)



Land of Hope and Glory: Andrew Davis conducts (7.30pm)

- 7.30 Last Night of the Proms from the Albert Hall in London introduced by Richard Baker. Featuring Dame Kiri Te Kanawa singing two arias; the Russian pianist Tatyana Nikolova, playing Shostakovich's Second Piano Concerto; and the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Davis (s) (670115) (simultaneous broadcast with Radio 3)  
 8.30 The US Open Tennis Championships from Flushing Meadows in New York. Barry Davis introduces live coverage of the women's singles final followed by the first of the men's singles semi-finals. John Barrett, Virginia Wade, Mark Cox and David Mercer provide the commentary (120831)  
 11.00 Film: Barbarella (1967). Sexy comic strip adventure starring Jane Fonda as an 41st-century astronaut who uses the power of love to fight the forces of evil. Directed by Roger Vadim (169299). Ends at 12.40am

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## ITV

- 6.00 TV-am (5823251)  
 9.25 What's Up Doc? Pat Sharp tells how to win a trip to a private showing of Madonna's new film, A League of Their Own; Yvette Fielding has a go at baseball; and Andy Crane looks into the macho world of the lumberjack (27593299)  
 11.30 Movies, Movies, Movies. The latest films on video and at the cinema (9473)  
 12.00 The ITV Chart Show. Featuring the Beloved performing "Your Love Takes Me Higher" (66134)  
 1.00 News with Ed Stourton. Weather (66162164) 1.05 LWT News (66194763)  
 1.10 Starting from Scratch. American comedy series about a small-town vet (7554589)  
 1.35 McCook. The Colorado cattle caper. Dennis Weaver is joined by John Denver and Farrah Fawcett. The cowboy detective finds himself up against opposition when he tries to transfer a murder suspect (r) (9282589)  
 3.00 Matlock. Andy Griffith stars in the courtroom drama series (7978638)  
 3.55 WCN Wrestling from America (7169763)  
 4.40 News with Ed Stourton. Weather (85045675) 5.00 LWT News (3894550)  
 5.10 Cartoon Time (r) (2290305)  
 5.15 Barmy Army. Michael Barmy introduces more clips from previous shows, where members of the public are the stars (r) (9937305)  
 6.00 Film: Big (1988). Tom Hanks stars in this appealing comedy about a 12-year-old boy who asks a carnival wishing machine to make him "big". The following morning he finds he is a fully grown adult and is chased from his home as an intruder. He finds success at work but comes to the conclusion that being a grown up is not all he had hoped for. Directed by Penny Marshall. (Oracle) (5517473)  
 7.55 I'll Be Alright on the Night. Denis Norden introduces another compilation of television and film out-takes (r) (387454)  
 8.55 News with Ed Stourton. Weather (907096)



Muscle-bound barbarian: Arnold Schwarzenegger (9.15pm)

- 9.15 Film: Conan the Barbarian (1981) starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. After witnessing the brutal murder of his parents, the young Conan is taken into slavery where he earns renown as a gladiator. Lumbering crypto-fascist nonsense, co-scripted by Oliver Stone and directed by John Milos. (Oracle) (56159454)  
 11.30 The Big E. Magazine programme for and about young Europeans (s) (52299)  
 12.35am Bachelors... Confirmed. A revealing documentary about men and women who have turned their backs on marriage (5473752)  
 1.40 News Music. Pop magazine with celebrity interviews (5960961)  
 2.40 Nightline 'n' Raag. Asian music show featuring Suk Man, Ballyu Sapto, Intermix, Mela and the Sahasas (9570955)  
 3.40 Indy Car Racing. Action from the Texaco Havoline 200 (3090329)  
 4.40 The Hit Man and Her. Pete Waterman and Michaela Strachan introduce the action from the nightclub scene (s) (1666706)  
 5.30 ITN Morning News (48110). Ends at 6.00

## CHANNEL 4

- 6.00 Joyce and the Wheelers Warriors (r) (2637657) 6.25 Eureka's Castle. Music and cartoons for the under-fives (r) (5770299) 6.55 Crosswalk. Exams and how to pass them (r) (6005928) 7.25 Blood Sweat and Glory. The history of sport (s) (7093367) 7.55 Times World Sport. Sporting news and features (2263378)  
 9.00 News summary (7566744) 9.15 Racing: the Morning Line (8213386)  
 10.00 Quizbowl. Sports journalists test their knowledge. Today, The Daily Express v The Guardian (r) (s) (407744)  
 10.30 Gazzetta Football Italia. Paul Gascoigne looks back at last week's opening matches in Serie A and ahead to tomorrow's fixtures (11812)  
 11.30 American Football. Mick Luckhurst and Gary Lynch introduce highlights of the first week's action in the new NFL season (7015)  
 12.00 Get Smart. Spoof spy series starring Don Adams (76096)  
 12.30 Bosnia. The second part of the documentary following the lives of the inhabitants of a small Bosnian Muslim community (26389)  
 1.00 Film: Gidget (1959, b/w). Sandra Dee stars as a teenager who undergoes the agonies and ecstasies of young love when she falls for college student surfer (James Darren). Directed by Paul Wendkos (5730589)  
 2.45 Racing from Doncaster. Brough Scott introduces Flying Chiders Stakes (3.05), Coalbrook Stakes (3.40), Coalbrook Handicap (4.15), Reference Point Stakes (4.45) (71382218)  
 5.05 Brookside. Omnibus edition (r). (Teletext) (s) (5859367)  
 6.30 The Big B. The second semi-final in the tournament to find Britain's top wheelchair basketball team is between Oldham Owls and Milton Keynes Aces. With subtitles (s) (541)  
 7.00 The World This Week. As the situation in Somalia worsens, expatriate Somali Ralayo Omar investigates the previously ignored plight of the hundreds of refugees who have died attempting sea crossings from Somalia to Yemen; plus a report on the political crisis in Germany (9589)

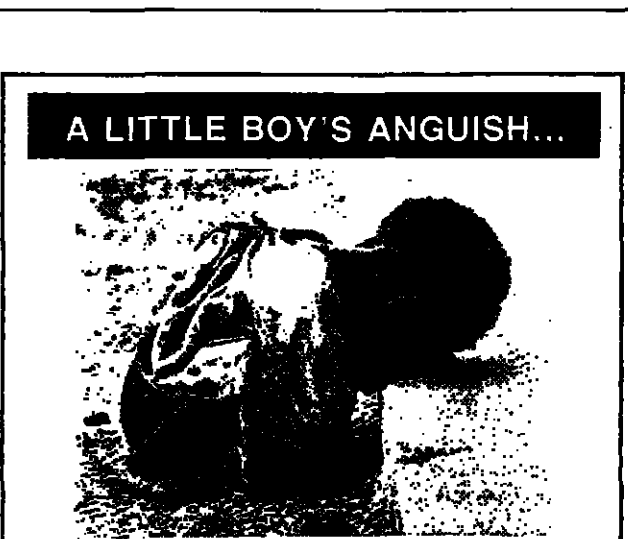


Living alone: the redoubtable Hannah Hawke (8.00pm)

- 8.00 Too Long a Winter  
 ● CHOICE: This film about a brutal November on the Yorkshire moors launches a short season of documentaries made by Barry Cockcroft and originally shown on ITV in the 1970s. A first study in its own right, Too Long a Winter was notable for giving viewers their first glimpse of Hannah Hawke. This redoubtable spinster was living alone in a crumbling farmhouse without electricity or running water and farming 80 acres. She existed on an income of less than £300 a year. Her earnings have increased somewhat since, as television has made her a national celebrity. Cockcroft is a contemplative film-maker, who is not afraid of letting his images linger and speak for themselves rather than smothering them in words. Aerial shots of empty snowdrifts, coupled with an Egarian score, often take on the quality of poetry. (Teletext) (5909)  
 9.00 Court TV: America On Trial, introduced by Cynthia McFadden, in Florida v Cobb, Marsha Cobb is charged with conning Robert Busbee out of \$200,000 worth of his land. In Woodward v Gallagher, a judge has to decide whether Sheriff Walter Gallagher acted constitutionally when he banned Deputy Sheriff Tom Woodward from the Florida police force because of his bisexuality (8473)  
 10.00 Let the Blood Run Free. More mayhem and madness when Pam decides she is in love and Effie is heavily bandaged. (Teletext) (s) (77725)  
 10.30 Film: Ay, Carmela! (1990). Slight but attractively shot film from Spain about a vaudeville team who find themselves behind fascist lines during the Spanish civil war and are forced to stage an anti-republican show. Directed by Carlos Saura. In Spanish with English subtitles (95678201)  
 12.20am Australian Rules Football. Antipodean action (6032955)  
 1.25 The Twilight Zone: Passage on the Lady Anne. A couple whose marriage is in trouble find love when they board an old ship originally designed for honeymooners (6127348)

## SATELLITE

- SKY ONE  
 ● Via the Astra and Marpolite satellites  
 6.00am Dancer Bay (72828) 6.30 Elephant Boy (60386) 7.00 Fun Factory (6889096) 12.00 Beyond 2000 (52328) 1.00am Florida (61676) 2.00 The Magician (72367) 3.00 Monkey (64299) 4.00 Iron Horse (6034) 5.00 WWF: Superstars (7676) 6.00 T.J. Hooker (61113) 7.00 Backer (69283) 8.00 Unsolved Mysteries (56567) 9.00 Cops (72218) 9.30 Cops (s) (53557) 10.00 Film: Twice Shy (52710) 12.00 Pages from Sybil  
 SKY MOVIES+  
 ● Via the Astra and Marpolite satellites  
 8.00 W.C. Fields & Me (1976). Romance of the comedian and his girlfriend (69647)  
 10.00 Lies of the Heart (1989). A boy can't admit he crashed his car (53152)  
 11.00 Superman's Daughter (1990). A girl doesn't want to follow in her mother's footsteps (26678)  
 12.00 Mafiosi (1991). Richard Harris plays the French detective (79270)  
 2.00pm The Witching of Ben Wagner (1987). A new boy in town bewitches the daughter of a witch (64382)  
 3.55 Superman III (1983). Christopher Reeve returns to save the world (5932225)  
 4.00m The Untouchables (1960). The Untouchables return to the screen (5932225)  
 4.30m The Untouchables (1960). The Untouchables return to the screen (5932225)  
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THE ANGUISH OF SOMALIA

We cannot impress upon you how desperately we need your help in Somalia.  
 If only to ease the plight of this one tiny child, crouched in anguish. Lost in a moment of deep despair, no child should ever know...  
 And the plight of thousands like him.  
 We do what we can with what we have. But already the Concern Feeding Centres are overflowing with people who are starving, who are sick, who are dazed, who are dying...  
 Please send what you can to Concern Worldwide's Somalia Appeal. Please. Today.

To: Concern Worldwide, 248-250 Lavender Hill, FREEPOST BE1098H, London SW11 1BR  
 I enclose my gift of:  
 £250 ☐ £100 ☐ £50 ☐ £25 ☐ £10 ☐ Other £  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
 or please debit my (circle one) AMEX/ACCESS/VISA account:  
 A/C No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tick here if receipt required: ☐  
 PHONE OUR CREDIT CARD HOTLINE ON: 071 738 1033  
 WORKING FOR THE THIRD WORLD  
 CONCERN WORLDWIDE  
 A0920801 Charity Reg No. 274425

## VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA  
 As London except: 1.35pm Chequered Flag (6974744) 2.05-3.15p M.C. A Cowboy in Paradise (247526) 3.00-5.15p Anglia News (225558)  
 BORDER  
 As London except: 1.10p M.C. Starlet (6732713) 3.00-4.40p Granada Sports World (65321725) 5.00-5.15p Granada News (225558) 11.35p The Hunter (592386) 1.20p Alfred Hitchcock Presents (162416) 2.40p The Hit Man and Her (592386) 3.20-4.40p Film: Assignment: Redhead (4736989) 5.00-5.15p HITV West News & Sport (225558)  
 HITV WALES  
 As HITV West except: 5.00pm-5.15p HITV Wales News and Sport.  
 TSW  
 As London except: 1.10p-12.00p The South West Week (9473) 1.10p Gardens for All (7567812) 1.40p Film: Beau Brummel (2348451) 3.40-4.40p M.C. Starlet (6732713) 5.00p TSW News (2275225) 5.05-5.15p Saturday Sport (58521) 11.35p Film: The Hunter (592386) 1.20p Alfred Hitchcock Presents (162416) 2.40p The Hit Man and Her (592386) 3.20-4.40p Film: Assignment: Redhead (4736989) 5.00-5.15p HITV West News & Sport (225558)

- SCREENSPORT  
 As London except: 1.35pm Chequered Flag (6974744) 2.05-3.15p M.C. A Cowboy in Paradise (247526) 3.00-5.15p Anglia News (225558)  
 LIFE STYLE  
 As London except: 1.10p-12.00p Zorro (9473) 1.10p Rodent (691725) 1.25p The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams (618034) 2.20p Superman (72838) 2.55-3.25p Film: Brand New Life (770381) 5.00p Central News (227627) 5.05-5.15p Central Match - South Africa (653831) 11.35p The Hunter (592386) 1.20p Alfred Hitchcock Presents (162416) 2.40p The Hit Man and Her (592386) 3.20-4.40p Film: Assignment: Redhead (4736989) 5.00-5.15p HITV West News & Sport (225558)

- RADIO 1  
 6.55am Weather  
 7.00am Radio 1 News: New releases including Mendelssohn (Symphony No 4 in A, Italian; LSO under Barry Wordsworth. 9.00am News, followed by: Building a Library; Schubert (Symphony No 8 in B minor, Unfinished); Julian Briston reviews new recordings of Clara Schumann's Piano Concerto in A minor and Puccini's La Rondine; West of the West; 10.05am Record Release; Returner extracts from the opera reviewed; 11.45am Anthony Brown; 12.00pm News; 12.15pm documentary on releases and historical recordings; 12.30pm Debussy (Images: Suite No 1); 1.00pm News; 1.15pm 1992: Dorian Sitewatch (violin) and Dmitri Alexeev (piano) perform Beethoven (Symphony No 30 in Bb minor, Op 98); Schumann (Sonata in A minor, Op 105; Intermezzo, FAE Sonata); 2.30pm News; 2.45pm News; 2.55pm News; 3.00pm News; 3.15pm News; 3.30pm News; 3.45pm News; 3.55pm News; 4.00pm News; 4.15pm News; 4.30pm News; 4.45pm News; 4.55pm News; 5.00pm News; 5.15pm News; 5.30pm News; 5.45pm News; 5.55pm News; 6.00pm News; 6.15pm News; 6.30pm News; 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